www.niagara-news.com

NIAGARA NEWS

February 16, 2001 | FREE | VOLUME 31 ISSUE 10

Niagara News is produced by the Journalism — Print students at Niagara College, Welland Campus

'French Connection' donates $30,000 for Alzheimer centre

By JENNIFER CHORNLEY
Staff Writer

Hockey's "French Connection" donated $30,000 to the Alzheimer Society of Niagara, on Feb. 12, as fund-raising for the $1.6-million Family and Community Resource Centre continues.

Along with the donation, a lounge in the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region's new Family and Community Resource Centre will be named in honour of St. Catharines legendary sports writer Jack Gatecliff and long-time Buffalo Sabres play-by-play announcer Ted Darling.

This announcement was made during ceremonies to launch the capital campaign for the new Resource Centre at the Linhaven Home for the Aged at 403 Ontario St.

The "French Connection" consists of Gilbert Perreault, Rick Martin and René Robert and is considered to be the greatest line in the history of the Buffalo Sabres. This line was also a dominant force in the National Hockey League from 1972 to 1979.

"We are grateful for the community support being demonstrated by the Sabres Alumni and are pleased to be involved in honouring two sports legends by placing their names in a lounge at our facility," says Don Ward, campaign chairman.

Ward says, during the presentation, this building is the "first of its kind in Canada and everybody is watching." He also explains all money raised will stay in the Niagara region and will be donated to the resource centre.

St. Catharines Liberal MPP Jim Bradley, 55, says a centre such as the Family and Community Resource Centre is "absolutely needed." The Niagara region has the highest percentage of people over 55 years of age in Ontario.

"I hope the Ontario government will make a contribution."

Continued on page 2

Art and Design Fundamentals — Graphic Design Production program students Wayne Corlis, Adam Epp and Lui Critelli get ready to launch gliders they made as a class project at the Welland campus. Inset, a close-up of the students' gliders.

Photos by Scott Thomson

. Contents .

Editorials 6
Insights 7, 8
Health 13
Entertainment 14, 15
Sports 16, 17

'100% effort' on Toque Tuesday

By JENNIFER CHORNLEY
Staff Writer

It was a "100 per cent effort" from the Niagara College Business Administration — Marketing program students in the sales course.

Nancy Schappert, professor at Niagara College, says the marketing students sold just over 2,000 tuques for the Toque Tuesday fund-raiser supporting long-term solutions for homelessness.

Schappert says some people donated about 30 to 40 tuques back and she'll donate them to her church, to support the Out-of-the-Cold program.

The Niagara Regional Police "gladly purchased 50 winter tuques from the good folks at Raising the Roof charity," raising $250.

At the St. Catharines City Hall, Wendy Thompson, executive assistant to the mayor, says throughout the city, about 7,000 tuques were sold, raising about $35,000.

In the end, Schappert says, the Marketing students took over from the Brock University students, who "bailed out."

Niagara College students sold 300 more tuques at Commisso's locations.

For the marketing students' efforts, they were treated to a pizza party from a director at the Glendale campus. The group selling the most tuques will receive a $100 gift certificate for a restaurant.

Check out Matt Watling's story on Dracula expert Elizabeth Miller, Pg. 9
Men's basketball team out of playoffs, see Pg. 16

Gone for break, our next edition is March 9th

LEISURE FOR ALL SEASONS

Back by popular demand . . . Recreation & Leisure March Break Camps - March 12 to March 16

Munchkin Camp
(3 to 5 Years)
Adventure Camp
(6 to 12 Years)

Location
Munchkin & Adventure Camps:
Quaker Road School
Monday to Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Fee: $16.00 per day or $72 for the week

Basketball Camp
(7 to 13 Years & 14 to 16 Years)
Each camper will receive a HOOPS T-shirt, shorts and a basketball.
No experience is necessary.

Instructor: Provided by HOOPS Basketball

Location: Eastdale High School
Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
7 to 13 Yrs. Fee: $199.00
14 to 16 Yrs. Fee: $128.00

For more information Call 732-7300 or 732-1414 or visit www.city.welland.on.ca

Upcoming Special Events:

March 12
Youth Innovations Grand Opening
At the Seaway Mall (next to Dollarama)
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

March 12, 13 & 14
Tim SKATES for the Whole Family
Welland Youth Arena
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

It Takes Us All

Alzheimer Society receives donation

Continued from page 1

Peter Kormos, 48, the New Democratic Party MPP for Niagara Centre, says this facility is "critical" and "essential." Kormos says taxpayers should fund a centre such as this and as a taxpayer he would have no problem using tax dollars to support the building of this centre.

Nancy Ferris, the executive director of the Alzheimer Society of Niagara, says the surroundings of the new Resource Centre are "safe" and "planned" in such a way that it will not upset those persons affected with any form of dementia in their new living conditions. The Family and Community Resource Centre will be "making the best use of the best technology and resources," as well.

Gatecliff was a longtime resident of St. Catharines and a strong supporter of local and amateur sports. In 1995, he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame and in 1998, into the Sabres Hall of Fame. He died September 2000 at 74.

Darling died in 1996, and in his broadcasting career, he called more than 800 games for 22 years. In 1994, Darling was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame and two years later into the Sabres Hall of Fame.

The building of the Family and Community Resource Centre began in the later part of 2000, and the society has raised $700,000.

Ward says, "A number of individuals and companies have contributed to the capital campaign. We are grateful for the strong show of support for such a worthy cause."

Jan Cook (left) looks on as Rick Martin changes the cheque from $25,000 to $30,000. Beside Cook is Gilbert Perreault, Larry Playfair, Fred Stanfield, Don Ward and René Robert.

Photo by Jennifer Chornley

Students raise over $3,000 for Many Hands project

By DAN D'AMICO
Staff Writer

There is only one answer to the question: Where is all the money from this fund-raiser going? Casa el Norte.

The students of Niagara College's Special Events Management (Post-graduate) program organized a trivia night at White Oaks Conference and Spa Centre in Niagara-on-the-Lake to raise funds for a non-profit organization called Casa el Norte. They raised more than $3,000 at this event. Casa el Norte is this year's organization that will benefit from the Many Hands project.

Casa el Norte is a refugee resettlement house in Fort Erie, which was purchased and furnished for $100,000 by the religious sisters of Peterborough. Last year the house helped 705 refugees from 90 countries.

Mim Gibbons and her husband, Joe, entered a team for the night's trivia contest.

She delivered a speech to the crowd in which she said, "I would like to say that my experiences at Casa are some of the best of my life. Work at Casa is challenging and ever changing. The gift of this one day will be remembered and cherished for many years."

Twenty-three teams came out to test their knowledge against the combined efforts of Ron Tufts and Brian Green. Green is a teacher on sabbatical from the Broadcasting — Radio, Television and Film program who did the research for the trivia nights he and Tufts put on. Tufts is a teacher in the same program.

"We're really happy to do it for a worthwhile charity like this one. This group has the most trivial minds that we've run across," he said. Tufts was the trivia master for the night's event.

He said he talked about the trivia night idea with David Veres, co-ordinator of the Special Event Management (Post-graduate) program, at a similar night he and Green organized for Niagara College faculty.

"It's fairly easy to put together. If we can help Casa el Norte and these guys, that's great as well."

Myrna McKeen, an organizer for the event, said the turnout was "fantastic."

"Over half the registrations were from the college, a real morale booster."

The event's co-chair, Kristine Tilbrook, said, "The Many Hands trivia night went off with a bang. The rowdiness of the teams was a sure sign everyone enjoyed themselves."

Canadian Tire Acceptance Ltd., sponsor for this year's event, has been the major sponsor for each Many Hands project for four years.

Mim Gibbons discusses an answer with her husband, Joe, at the Many Hands trivia night.

Photo by Dan D'Amico

Human Relations students raise $250 for local Humane Society

Human Relations program students sell valentine cut-outs to support the Humane Society.

Photo by Hilary Taylor

By HILARY TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Second-year Human Relations program students raised $250 for the local Humane Society selling hearts for Valentine's Day.

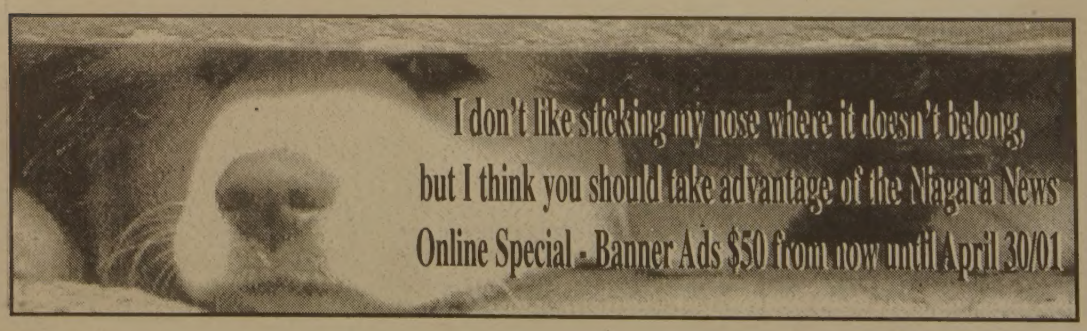
The group of six students — Brian Spears, 20, Kristie Cairns, 20, A.J. Jeffrey, 23, Kayti Parrent, 19, Jodi Ker, 23, and Holly Balcomb, 22 — sold the red construction paper valentines for $1 outside the college radio station CRCN at the Welland campus on Feb. 8 and Feb. 14.

Fund-raising is part of the curriculum for the students. Recently, Bev Davies, program co-ordinator, explained the students organize everything for the event. Faculty act as facilitators and provide "on-going support."

Spears said the group chose to raise money for the local Humane Society because "we like puppies."

The students displayed the valentine hearts on the window of the radio station.

Last term, more than $1,000 was raised to assist the United Way fund-raising drive.


I don't like sticking my nose where it doesn't belong,
but I think you should take advantage of the Niagara News
Online Special - Banner Ads $50 from now until April 30/01

Correction

In the Volume 31, Issue 7, of the *Niagara News* published Feb. 9, 2001, in the story on page 11, headlined "College graduate writes Croatian cookbook," the location was incorrectly identified in the photo cutline. Journalism-Print program graduate Gordana Pirker-Mosher actually visited the cafeteria of the Black Walnut building.

It is the policy of Niagara News to correct errors of fact.

COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

Community-minded leader settles at Canada's fastest-growing Alzheimer Society chapter

By JENNIFER CHORNLEY
Staff Writer

It is growing faster than any chapter in Canada. The news would be good, except its success is due to the growing number of people with Alzheimer's disease in the Niagara region.

At the helm of the Niagara chapter of the Alzheimer Society of Canada is executive director Nancy Ferris. The satellite office for the society is on Church Street in St. Catharines.

Ferris, 53, says the chapter, begun in November 1993, is experiencing "phenomenal growth."

It now has 23 staff members, more than triple the original seven who first opened the chapter's doors. There is a growing demand in the region, she says, and the society provides "excellent and wonderful" services to people with family members suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

The chapter's special accomplishments, she says, include publishing a book and creating an award-winning video, and it is also in the process of building a therapeutic centre.

Ferris clarified that although the Region provided the land, "the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region will continue to own and operate the building and operate its programs throughout the region."

The society is moving to 403 Ontario St., the future site, to provide room for expanded services.

Before joining the Niagara Chapter in 1993, Ferris was a teacher, program director and educational consultant.

Her teaching career lasted nine years during which she taught high school physical education. She also worked on her bachelor of arts degree in sociology from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont., at the same time.

When her children were small, Ferris says she worked as a program co-ordinator for the Burlington YMCA. Ferris was the director for all the children's programs and she was the day camp and volunteer co-ordinator, as well.

For seven years, Ferris ran a home-based consulting business. She developed proposals, workshops for volunteers and board retreats for major companies.

Ferris went through a "huge" career that resulted in her redirecting her life to "a more challenging career."

In 1993, when she saw the society's executive director's post advertised in the *Hamilton Spectator*, Ferris was pondering career choices.

"At that time there was a recession, and there were very little opportunities for leadership positions." Ferris could have been involved in fund-raising or could have been a corporate trainer, but the Alzheimer position is "where I ended up," she says.

If she worked as a corporate trainer at Sheridan College, she would have been co-ordinating needs for businesses such as computer management and time management. Ferris would go into the business and assess the company, then develop a proposal.

As the executive director and chief executive officer, Ferris runs the day-to-day operations and develops a vision for the future. As well, she reports to the board of directors. One of the society's goals is to improve the quality of life for patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

When Ferris began her job, "my goal (was) to build a dynamic organization that runs efficiently and effectively, while at the same time, staff and volunteers were valued."

Ferris explains some terms. By having a "dynamic" organization, she means it "didn't stand still." With staff, she wanted them to have time, talent and passion for their job. Ferris wanted volunteers with "proficiency" and "leadership" skills. By running the operation efficiently, Ferris says the organization "can't be frivolous" with time and energy.

Ferris says the volunteers and the staff are a "talented and dedicated group of people who love to see things accomplished." For her, it brings out a "really good feeling."

Although "it is a lot of hard work" and there are struggles at times, her work gives her "a sense of pride. There is so much to do. I am a doer." With this in mind, Ferris says that even after seven years her job isn't finished.

"I don't like to leave things until they are finished." Ferris admits, "I get bored pretty easy. I need new stuff."

Nancy Ferris, executive director of the Alzheimer Society of Niagara, poses with a print she received from the Ronald McDonald House for Sick Children, for her contribution as president to this foundation in Hamilton.

Photo by Jennifer Chornley

What makes this job "unique" is its difficulty. Ferris explains the constant changing of environment and government funding mandates make it difficult for "us and our clients."

There is constant change through growth, reorganization and the addition of more people. "We provide the human resources so they (staff and volunteers) can get their job done."

She says because the world is so fast-paced and "there is tons to do, you are overwhelmed by activities."

With so much to do at the office, Ferris takes work home. Some days are so busy, her laptop computer sits on the floor by her desk and Ferris has no time to check her e-mail until she is home in the evening.

Ferris's accomplishments include having children, which she considers to be "a wonderful experience and you really learn about yourself," being the founding president of the Ronald McDonald House for Sick Children in Hamilton, and being nominated for Woman of the Year in the Community Service category in 1992 in Hamilton. In April 1993, Ferris was named Volunteer of the Year.

The Ronald McDonald House opened in May 1993. Ferris says she didn't have any children who were sick but "it was a wonderful opportunity to work with really wonderful people" and she "just stepped into it."

Ferris says her volunteer work gives her "more out of volunteer work than I have given. It just feels good to do stuff."

Some interests in Ferris's "super-balanced life" include working out at the gym, cooking and entertaining, and she "loves to play squash." With her high energy level, she says, "I can overwhelm people."

Ferris's love of sports resulted in a diploma from the University of Edinburgh in Edinburgh, Scotland. While there, she had a chance to play sports at the national level. She enjoyed the opportunity to be involved and the opportunity to "push yourself until you can explore how far you can go." She enjoys the concept of setting your goals and then "working like heck to get there."

Ferris has two sons – Mark, 23, and Blair, 21. Blair is "finding himself in the mountains of B.C. (British Columbia)" working at a ski resort. Ferris explains he attempted a year of university at Dalhousie University in Halifax, N.S., but says he "wasn't ready."

Mark is attending St. Mary's University in Halifax, N.S., and is in his fourth year of political science. He is studying the business aspect. His "claim to fame" in his high school career was his participation in football at the high school and provincial level. He retired in his fourth year in university to concentrate on his studies, and with that she says Mark is "on fire about the world."

Ferris earned certificates from Humber College, of Etobicoke, in 1985 and Sheridan College, of Oakville, in 1993. From Humber, she obtained a certificate in volunteer management and from Sheridan she received a certificate in fund-raising.

Originally, an American, Ferris has lived in Burlington, Ont., since she was 10 and "I never went back" to San Francisco, Calif., where she was born. She has dual citizenship.

Fast Facts on the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region

Was founded in 1984, by volunteers who provided the initial leadership for support groups.

The first Alzheimer Resource Centre for the Niagara Region opened in 1987, in Niagara Falls, with volunteers and one part-time assistant.

The Society moved to St. Catharines in 1989 and applied to the Ministry of Health for base funding to hire qualified staff to help with counselling.

With the development of the Family Support program, this became an Outreach Program as the client base increased.

Of the 39 chapters in Ontario, the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region offers the largest, most comprehensive counselling program.

The Avondale House Regional Resource Centre, on 203 Ontario St., opened in 1991.

Between March 1996 and March 2000, the caseload has grown 184 per cent.

February 2000 – the society entered a memorandum of understanding with the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

The Region offered land to the Society for a $1 long-term lease on two acres of land at the Linhaven Home for the Aged at 403 Ontario St., for a new Family and Community Resource Centre to be opened in June 2001.

The resource centre will cost $1.6 million, and fund-raising efforts have now reached $700,000.

The new Family and Community Resource Centre for the Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region is 67,000-square foot.

When the Avondale House, at 203 Ontario St., is sold, all proceeds will go towards the centre. The building is on the market for $199,000.

Alzheimer Society
NIAGARA REGION

Information from Alzheimer Society backgrounder.

THE SAC VOICE

STUDENT ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL WELLAND - GLENDALE - MAID OF THE MIST

Yes it's true, only a week left before we head into the party that *is* spring break. Call it reading week, call it break week, but regardlessof its name, it is a festival of what college life is all about, say no more.

But before you go check out what we have going on for ya in this last week!!

Ryan McLaughlin
SAC Prez, Welland Campus

STUFF-WE-B-DOIN'

- ***Mar. 16 - Ontario Science Centre Trip***
  Relive your childhood, explore science, have fun!
  - Only $5 incl. Bus
- ***Mar. 20 - Raptors vs. Pacers***
  Come see Toronto whip Indiana's butt
  in some good NBA action! - $30 incl. Bus

TICKETS AVAILABLE @ SAC OFFICE

SEXUAL AWARENESS WEEK

FEB. 19 - 23

We're going to have sexually aware events all week. Come out and participate and win LOTS of prizes!! See our SAC Office for details.

SAC MOVIE NIGHT

FREE FOR ONE FREE NIGHT ONLY

Popcorn available for $1.50/bag with a $1 going to the Adopt-a-Landmine fund.

@ After Hours pub, Tuesday February 20
DOORS @ 8pm SCREEN @ 8:30

MAR. 6 MOVIE NIGHT WILL START AN HOUR EARLY (7:30pm) SO WE CAN HAVE KAROAKE AFTER - BOTH FREE @ AFTER HOURS

WHO CARES?

Get involved, have your voice heard

Student Administrative Council
Run for President or Vice-President

ELECTIONS

Board of Governors
Student Representative

Why?

- Get your opinions heard
- Help decide how your student $$ are spent
- Learn skills that you'll carry with you after college
- Let's face it, it looks great on a résumé
- Organize cool and exciting events
- Hobnob with college officials
- You won't need a part-time job, this pays
- Get free pop!

NOMINATION KITS AVAILABLE FROM FEB. 12 - 23 9AM TO 4PM @ SAC OFFICE

DEADLINE: KITS MUST BE RETURNED BY NOON ON FRIDAY FEB. 23, 2001

PICK UP NOMINATION KITS IN ANY SAC OFFICE

ENVIRONMENT WATCH

College co-hosts international conference

By PAUL FINELLI
Staff Writer

Nestled along a world-renowned biosphere that is the escarpment, Niagara College's Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake may naturally play an active role in an international discussion of ecological restoration.

The 13th annual conference will take place from Oct. 4 to Oct. 6 at the Niagara Falls Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Conference Centre in conjunction with the college's Glendale campus. This event is the first time for the Cascade City and the second for a Canadian city, the first being Waterloo, Ont., in 1992. The conference is a yearly event of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER).

Founded in 1988, SER is a non-profit organization with about 2,500 members, individuals and organizations actively involved in ecological repair and management of ecosystems. With members in about 30 countries worldwide and 13 chapters in North America, England, Australia and India, it aims to serve ecological restoration internationally by promoting awareness and public support. It achieves this by yearly conferences, a training program, committees, two journals and a Web site that can be accessed at www.ser.org.

"It's going to be quite an event," said Al Unwin, conference committee chair and vice-chair of SER's Ontario chapter. With its official title and theme, Restoration Across Borders, the conference will cover issues like the creation of partnerships and their role in the successful repairing and managing of ecosystems worldwide.

While the actual gathering is not until the fall, the college's preparations are already in the works. "We're right in the midst of doing the conference development," noted Unwin, also the co-ordinator of the Ecosystem Restoration (Post-graduate) program. As for this year's event, pre- and post-conference training opportunities for the attendees will consist of various workshops at the Glendale campus. The site is an obvious choice, Unwin agreed, with the Centre for Environmental Training's specialty programs like ecosystem restoration.

The conference will offer valuable experience to a diverse mix of people including environmental consultants, policy makers, landscape designers and students planning environmental restoration and management careers.

"So a lot of them will sign up for the conference and then come and then take like a one-day workshop, or maybe we'll do a workshop on wetland restoration," Unwin said. "We'll actually go out to our wetlands here and utilize that site for some training workshops or the greenhouses. We'll do something with the plants or something along those lines.

"It's going to give us amazing exposure, I mean, to the entire world and really puts us on the map as an important training centre for restoration ecologists. You know, the whole world's going to be coming here and seeing what our facilities are like."

He noted there will be "high-profile" speakers attending, *including David Crombie, the former mayor of Toronto, once part of the Brian Mulroney federal government Cabinet. Crombie now heads the Waterfront Regeneration Trust in Toronto. "He's been confirmed for the fourth (of October)," Unwin said.*

While ecosystem restoration students help plan the event as part of their training, Unwin said the campus's Ventures division was hired to help co-ordinate the logistics, given their "wealth of experience" and, to date, they "have been outstanding."

"We have a variety of field trips that will be arranged for the delegates that will be coming as well, and that will oversee all the various areas of the Niagara region that have been involved with restoration," said Silvana Auld, a development officer at Ventures and a conference co-ordinator.

"What we're trying to incorporate is the real Niagara regional theme so that the people coming from all over the world will really get a taste of what Niagara is all about."

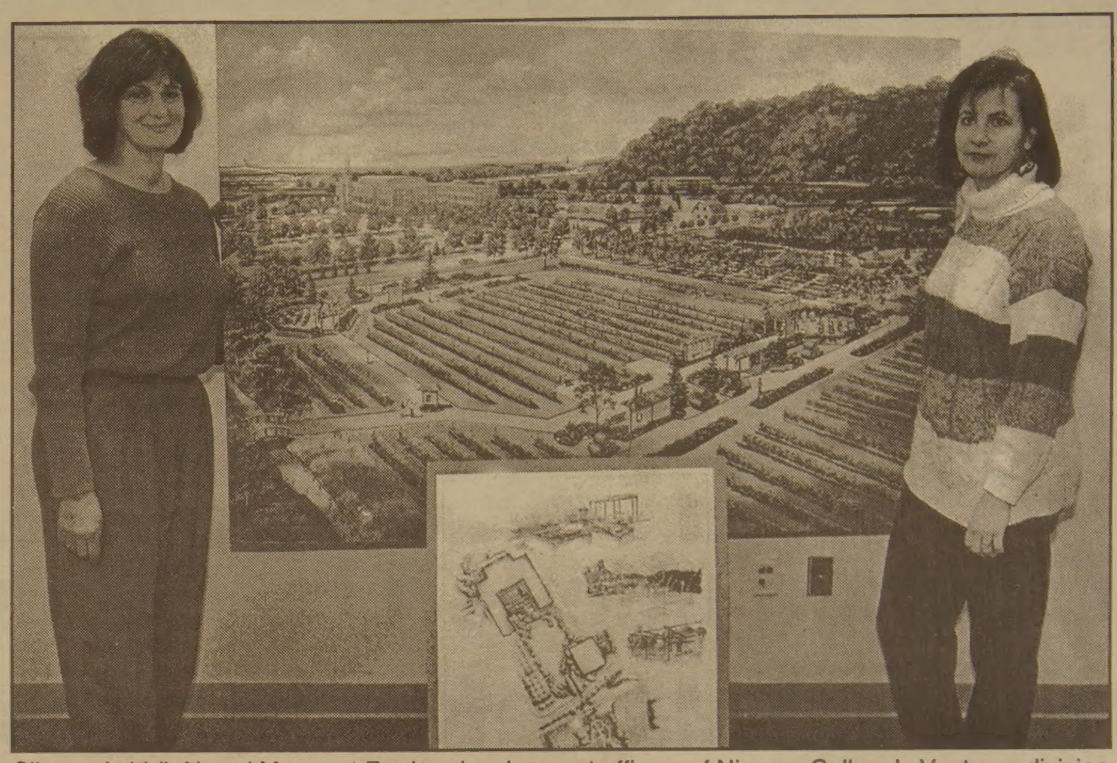
As for getting speakers to fill seats, Auld said, grinning, "We're working on (getting) some other people (besides Crombie) but we have to kind of keep that a little quiet right now."

As for the attendees, she added, "So far we've had a great response. We have people as far as Bulgaria and China right now that will be coming to the conference, and we are expecting quite a few more internationally, aside from North America."

It was SER's main headquarters in Tucson, Ariz., that approached the Ontario chapter through the Centre for Environmental Training several years ago, initially to host the 2002 conference but then 2001 became available, Auld explained.

While Ventures puts in some *funds for its own preparations, the* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Environment Canada are major sponsors of the event.

Summing up the division's enthusiasm, Auld said, "We're very excited about having Niagara College involved because, of course, where we're situated is one of the most beautiful areas, we feel, in the world."



Silvana Auld (left) and Margaret Runka, development officers of Niagara College's Ventures division at the Glendale campus, have been hired as co-ordinators for the Society for Ecological Restoration's first conference in Niagara Falls, themed Restoration Across Borders. They pose with a map displaying the campus's present and long-term exterior designs, one fact that may make the campus a natural choice for some of the conference's activities.

Photo by Paul Finelli

College helps promote reforestation in Ecuador

By CLINTON HAGGART
Staff Writer

Niagara College is helping the Universidad Espritu Santo, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, promote and sustain reforestation in the coastal areas of the South American country.

The college is a partner in the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) funded program.

College of the Rockies in British Columbia is the main partner. It is a member of the Canadian College Partnership Program.

The program is designed to help the university from Ecuador with eco-tourism initiatives and small-business development programs.

Kyla Pennie, 27, the international projects specialist, said she and Jos Nolle, the director of international education and development, were joined by two staff members from the College of the Rockies in Ecuador to promote the program. Pennie said a restoration site would be chosen by March 31.

CIDA gave $350,000 over four years to the university.

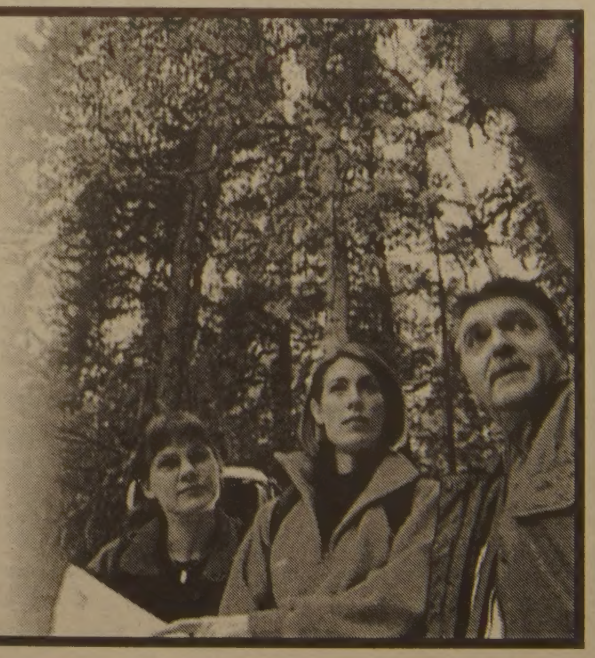
This program was designed to offer programs in Ecuador, so people from Ecuador don't have to come to Canada to get the knowledge and technologies to aid them.

Protecting our natural heritage

Jean Fau is a chief park warden for Parks Canada. He and his colleagues protect the plant and animal life in our national parks. They also help Canadians explore and enjoy these special places. This is just one of the hundreds of services provided by the Government of Canada.

For more information on government services:
- Visit the **Service Canada Access Centre** nearest you
- Visit **www.canada.gc.ca**
- Call **1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232)**
  TTY/TDD: **1 800 465-7735**

Canada



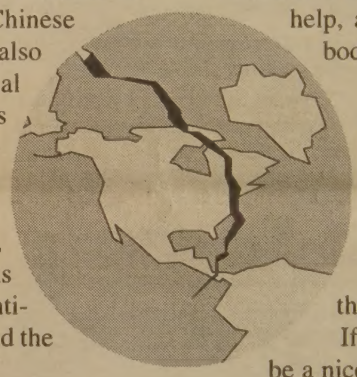
EDITORIALS

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest.
Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of
Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, Room S212, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Welland, Ont. L3B 5S2
Phone (905) 735-2211 / 641-2252 / 374-7454 / FAX (905) 736-6003
Editor: Collin Coulis; **Associate Editor:** Paul Finelli; **Assistant Editor:** Scott Rosts;
Publisher: Leo Tiberi, director, Communications and Information Technology;
Editor-in-Chief: Stu Black, project manager, New Media Development;
Managing Editor: Phyllis Barnatt, co-ordinator, Journalism-Print program;
Associate Managing Editor: Gary Erb, professor, Journalism-Print program;
Editorial Consultant: Nancy Geddie, professor, Journalism-Print program;
Advertising Professor: Linda Camus;
Advertising-Account Manager: VBS Advertising, Ron Crowley;
Advertising Design: Ron Crowley; Clinton Haggart;
Photography Consultant: Jhim Burwell, photography instructor;
Photography Editor: Stephen D'Orazio;
Film Processing: Paul Finelli; Heidi Morrison; Aaron Wilson;
Scanning Crew: Tara Ford; Calum McNeil; Bill Stephenson.
www.niagara-news.com

Firm stance needed by Canada, PM on nuclear defence missiles

As this editorial is being written, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, along with Niagara College President Dan Patterson, is in China on the Team Canada trade mission.

Besides finalizing numerous business deals, Chrétien is expected to discuss human rights issues with Chinese President Jiang Zemin. The two leaders are also expected to discuss the United States's national missile-defence initiative. The initiative proposes to create a defence system that destroys long-range missiles from space before they reach American soil.



Several NATO countries, including Russia, China, Britain and India, have expressed concerns that the $60-billion system would violate a 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty between the United States and the former Soviet Union.

Chrétien, having met with all the major players — Russia, the United States and China — in recent months, finds himself in the awkward position of being messenger boy.

He has yet to take a stand on the issue. In a Feb. 14th online article, Sandra Cordon, of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., quotes Chrétien as saying: "I don't believe we can play a role but we can help, at least, to have a positive dialogue among everybody there."

Yes, there needs to be positive dialogue between all concerned parties, but Chrétien is wrong in thinking that we, as Canadians, can't play a role in *this debate*.

As Canadians, we must take a stand because this new missile-system could jeopardize world peace.

This is not a time to be in the middle and sit on the fence; we must oppose the new defence system.

If the bombs start dropping, the middle ground won't be a nice place to be.

Collin Coulis

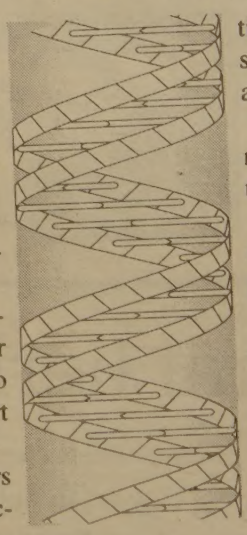
Mapping of human genome means breakthrough in science, medicine while sparking ethical concerns

It's become a Braver New World this week.

The scientific community has announced a tie between an international public consortium and a private American company in the race to be first decoding the entire human genetic code, the combinations of DNA that make us unique.

To recap, the Human Genome Project hit media headlines last summer. Scientists announced they had successfully mapped 97 per cent of the DNA sequence.

World leaders called it a great milestone in human history that will revolutionize science and medicine. For example, new genetic research could make it possible to identify an individual's lifetime risk of cancer, heart attack and many other diseases.



Just think of the other benefits. For one thing, employers and insurance companies in North America could collectively save billions of dollars with access to genetic screenings to weed out or dismiss those predisposed to a chronic disease.

Worried about age, sexual, racial or ethnic discrimination? Genetic discrimination will soon be the latest trend.

True, the decoding of our building blocks does mean many scientific and medical marvels, such as curing or perhaps preventing cancer.

However, we cannot overlook the moral quandaries. Scientists, doctors and governments worldwide must agree on drawing some lines to protect our privacy, as we all must.

While our genome is all laid out, our ethics have yet to be.

Paul Finelli

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submissions is this: All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication. Each letter must include the writer's name, college identification number and program of study.
All letters must be signed and include a day and evening telephone number for verification use only.
All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Room S212, Simcoe Building, Welland Campus.

ADVERTISING RULES: The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred. This applies whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise.
There shall be no liability for non-insertions of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.
All advertisers are asked to check their advertisements after first insertion. We accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion unless notified immediately after publication. Errors, which do not lessen the value of the advertisement, are not eligible for corrections by a make-good advertisement. There shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. We reserve the right to edit, revise, classify or reject any advertisement.

INSIGHTS

It's time to find place in human race

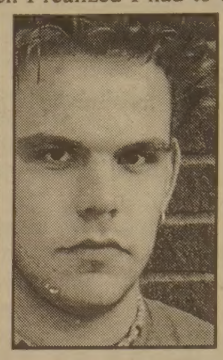
By SCOTT THOMSON
Staff Writer

The first thing you must realize is that I was born to change the world.

Before you mock me and laugh at my statement, let me assure you that I am not kidding. I was born to change this world and leave a pretty corpse behind.

I hope I am not alone with these feelings. I hope to be just another confused member of my generation, but I doubt it.

– Scott Thomson



My whole life I've been told I have a certain talent for talking to people. Friends, family, the average stranger can open up to me and let out their emotions in true form. I have brought many people to tears just by talking to them and now I know why. I was born to listen and help. I was born to change the world with my heart.

I know how to push people's buttons and force them to see the blatant truth, whether they want to or not.

I know I must sound full of myself, but don't leave me now. Please don't discount my theory. Let me rant.

Growing up required me to have a lot of patience. I would always take the time to help those who needed me and seldom helped myself. When I didn't get any help in return, I started hating and resenting all that was not me. I did not trust anyone but myself.

Then I realized I had to stop helping. It was my turn to grow and deal with my issues in my own way.

I turned to drinking, music and writing, but nothing helped. I could only mask the problem, not fix it. I chalked it up to teenage aggression and assumed it would go away, but it never has.

I don't know who I am.

Nothing has really triggered this realization. I always knew the problem was there, but I figured it would just work itself out.

True identity plagues me.

In my eyes I do not exist as anything more than a physical entity. I have no definable soul, no definable mind and no definable truths.

I am an empty slate.

Though I like the man I've become, I still see many errors in my character.

I hope I am not alone with these feelings. I hope to be just another confused member of my generation, but I doubt it.

It is my time to find out.

So from here on out I do not exist.

For my own good, I am resigning my post as a member of the human race. Like a caterpillar in a cocoon, I do not exist.

This isn't a suicide pact or a cry for attention. This is nothing more than a realization that a change has to occur. In fact, I love life and am looking forward to the time I can once again emerge from my shell and live happily.

But if I am to change the world, I must first change myself.

I don't know why I am sharing this with you, the reader. Perhaps I'm looking for a little reassurance that I'm not alone? Or perhaps I'm saying I just want to be left alone?

Whatever the answer is, I hope to find out soon.

College trends push students into anonymity

By AARON YZERMAN
Staff Writer

I don't get it.

Since I started here in January of last year, several things involved with "college life" bother me. I don't participate in it, and, to be honest, I don't even like seeing it. I'm a bit intolerant, I admit, but this has been bothering me for a while. Since I started at Niagara College, I see stuff people my age are doing and it works my nerves a little. I try to be somewhat open minded, but I'd like to provide some commentary on what I've seen.

When I walk around this place, I can't help but be puzzled trying to figure out the reasoning behind some of the things people do.

Do we really need to put up with the alcoholic, idiot guys walking around screaming "Whazzzuuuup?!?" or whatever saying is popular with the kids these days? Do I have to be around these people who sit down in one spot for two hours to ogle all the attractive people that walk by?

I see them every day, and it bugs the hell out of me. You can usually spot these people, usually male, sitting in the hallways with a group of their equally macho pals, mentally undressing every pretty girl that passes by. It's none of my business what you do or think, but have some respect for women. There's more to them than a pair of breasts, believe it or not. Have you nothing better to do with your tuition fees than making rude comments about how "hot" these girls are? Would you say those things to her face? I thought not.

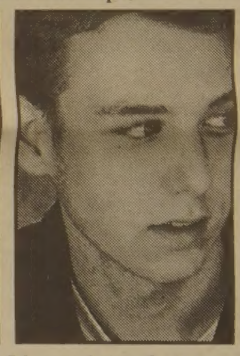
I've seen a lot of these unfortunate souls around at school, and, believe me, young women, having a nice conversation with you is not what many of them are interested in. Mind you, not every boy in college is like this. There are some who actually care about the person they date and enjoy their companionship.

The fact of the matter is, probably more than half of the students in this school, and at just about every post-secondary school are in it primarily for one or two things. It's not for learning something, or trying to find what interests them, but something much more important and meaningful: Partying. Yes, the thoughtless quest for cheap thrills never ceases to make me shake my head. There are students here getting drunk in the morning and afternoon, instead of going to class. I also understand that these bars and clubs are the place to "pick up" people. Man, don't even get me started on that. There's no intention of meeting somebody you might actually care about, because sex is the big goal at the end of the night, and that's it.

Everything is so trendy. Pardon me for saying, but man, some people just follow everything blindly. You can't tell 80 per cent of the people in this place apart because they act the same and dress in uniform. By uniform, I mean the baggy pants, bubble vests, hiking coats, hooded sweatshirts, baseball caps, and so on. Congratulations – you're 12.

When, I walk around this place, I can't help but be puzzled trying to figure out the reasoning behind some of the things people do.

– Aaron Yzerman



Of course, the ensemble wouldn't be complete without the cellular telephone, quite possibly the single dumbest trend amongst youth, and a staple of the prototypical college student. What's the point of having one of these things? From what I understand, pay phones are cheaper to use, so why, oh why, would you need a cell phone? Apparently to send the message "I'm so spectacular that I need to take my calls at school. I'm very, very important and busy." Yikes.

Keep in mind that this doesn't apply to everyone, not at all. I know lots of nice people at school in my program and other programs. However, I don't understand why people throw away their identities by subscribing to these common practices that many students do.

All of these things I've discussed don't just apply to the college/university years. It will be the same when you leave. The point of all this? Don't blend in – it's the only way you'll get anywhere in life. No one accomplishes anything by being normal.

I wanted to get some of these things off my mind. Maybe it will inspire some people out there to think twice before becoming a statistic, or maybe it will inspire some dirty looks. I don't care which, but I think somebody has to stand up and draw a line in the sand.

Letter to the Editor

KPI remarks imply students responsible for lack of college funding

Dear Editor:

I'm writing this letter in response to the article "Students' opinions affect funding," written by Laura T. Ricciuto in the Feb. 2, 2001, edition (Vol. 31 Issue 9) of the Niagara News.

The article explained, in a very diplomatic manner, that the response by students in the Key Performance Indicator surveys (KPIs) would directly affect the amount of additional funding Niagara College would receive in the upcoming school year.

This same message was also delivered in an article by Brooke Dredge, which was on the same page, and an advertisement on the adjoining page, which featured an open letter to students by (Niagara College President) Dan Patterson.

The article written by Ricciuto, however, tore through me like a knife. In the article, Bonnie Rose, vice-president academic, is quoted as saying "students don't need to use the KPIs to give us a message."

Instead, we students were urged to send our comments and suggestions to feedback@niagarac.on.ca. Rose also says, "I'm concerned students don't know how much it (KPI results) affects our funding."

Personally, I am outraged and insulted that a high-ranking official in our school would make such comments. Niagara College has its problems, like any other school in Ontario. I've been told countless times since coming here that my opinion matters. Now it seems I'm being told that my opinion matters, as long as I don't voice them truthfully on the KPIs.

Maybe I'm reading this completely wrong but it seems to me the college has dropped the ball and has decided to dangle funding over the heads of the students like a carrot, asking us, in no uncertain terms, to praise the school in the KPIs and give our real feedback to their e-mail address. I call that lying.

It's not the college's responsibility to teach its students morality or to even go so far as act morally, but when Niagara College pays for an advertisement that has the words "Proud to be Niagara!" on it, I expect that the college would act in a manner that would make me proud. And at this moment I am not proud to be a Niagara College student.

When I fill out the KPI, I will do so in an honest manner, which reflects my personal experience at the college, not the "whole picture" (whatever that means), which Dan Patterson speaks of in Ricciuto's article. If I did not, I would be lying. And this Niagara College student doesn't bend the truth for any amount of funding.

Christopher Newman
Journalism-Print program, Year One
Niagara College

We're going on a break. See you March 9.
To see what we've done since January, check out www.niagara-news.com

INSIGHTS

Many seek true freedom, but few attain it

RYAN McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

Freedom. Whether it be personal, diplomatic, or otherwise, freedom is what many have sought, and only the strongest have found.

I think it is important for us to step back from the lives that we are living and ask ourselves, are we free?

There is no debate that we live in a nation considered "free." However, when you look at the control we give away to the "powers that be" you need to wonder how much say we have over our lives.

Government in its purist form is a body of people taking on the menial task of maintaining what is essentially a machine, ensuring it doesn't break down. Security, health, prosperity — these are the things we expect from our government.

When did we decide that these things are not worth our daily energy and so pawn the responsibility to people more "skilled" at it?

Freedom is the mainspring of human progress. It gives us the will and way to innovation, which has separated us from our not-so-distant primitive cousins. Yet, as a species, we seem more akin to worker bees than to the free-willed beings we consider ourselves. We go about our lives waiting for people to tell us what to do next and where to do it, never asking what it is we want from life.

How many of us are here learning a trade or skill we assume will get us a good job so we can spend the better portion of our lives working to make the full wallets of someone higher on the totem pole fatter.

We will then pay a large chunk of what we've earned to a government that spends more time thinking re-elections than what the people who elected them want.

A democracy, idealistically, provides its people with the opportunity to elect whomever they choose to govern them, and though there are many political parties to choose from in this fine country, there are only a handful of options when it comes to the ballot.

Many political parties don't have the funds to run a campaign in each riding, let alone to get time on national television or space in major newspapers.

I would have voted hands down for the Green Party in this past federal election. However, there was no Green candidate on the ballot in my riding. How is this democratic?

There are flaws in any government, and maybe fewer in ours than in most, but that does not mean we should sit back and accept it when we have the freedom to change it. We just have to be willing to take on the responsibility that this freedom brings.

Humanity damned by nationalistic streak

CALUM McNEIL
Staff Writer

Nationalism is a disease for which there is no cure.

By this I mean that nationalism is just a manifestation of the inherent tribalism of the human psyche. We define ourselves relative to other things. Black or white, English or French, Canadian or American, our identity is tied up in how we are similar to dissimilar from those with whom we live.

Modern citizens are conditioned from the time they enter school to associate themselves with the state in which they were born. National anthems, pledges of allegiance, even history lessons all serve to reinforce this feeling of belonging.

This strengthens the state and gives it a useful tool to manipulate its populace. Any perceived threat, if played out correctly, can be used to justify extreme actions. Whether they are Jews, immigrants or homosexuals, all can be exploited for the purpose of manipulation.

When a person's identity and pride are at stake, that person is more willing to become reactionary and irrational. Wars are fought, and conflicts become endemic, because to compromise national policy is to compromise your identity. Northern Ireland and Israel are prime examples of this state of intransigence.

Nationalism is a relatively new phenomenon, however.

Until the last century, the notion of citizens identifying with the state was almost unknown. For example, people living in France during the 1700s did not identify themselves as French, but as subjects of the King of France. This monarchial alliance was throughout most of Europe and the rest of the world.

The subjects of kings and emperors played no role in the governing of the state.With no role, the peasantry and bourgeoisie took no interest in politics or government unless it directly affected them.

There were exceptions, of course, the United Kingdom being pre-eminent among them. Within Britain there was a keen sense of national identity. This sense occurred because Britain is an island nation and has enjoyed a strong central government for most of the last millennia. In addition, the United Kingdom was the only European state to have a constitutionally restricted monarch, a situation which led to a more politically active and critical populace. The British, however, were not free. Influence was still the private reserve of the wealthy and the wellborn. The mass of the British population, though politically aware, was politically impotent.

The American Revolution changed this state of affairs.

The Americans created a system of government for the people by the people. This meant that all Americans developed a strong attachment to the land over which they governed because all Americans (with the exception of blacks and women) played part in its governing.

The American Revolution also set a precedent. It showed that a state could be run democratically, on principles decided upon by the electorate rather than by a remote despot. American nationalism was based upon the righteousness of the system they created. Americans believed passionately that they belonged to the finest nation in the world and were willing to fight to maintain this freedom.

The success of this revolution was not lost on the rest of the civilized world. In particular the French, who had actively supported the Americans against the British, were greatly influenced by its success.

After suffering through the mass corruption of the Bourbon monarchy and the huge tax burden laid upon them, the peasantry and bourgeoisie of France revolted.

The French Revolution in 1789, was different in many ways from the American. Although it ostensibly sought the same goals, it quickly became apparent to those who led the revolt that the rest of Europe's monarchies would not stand for a state based on principles, that could threaten their existence.

Europe's monarchies united and declared war on France. They led their armies of paid soldiers to fight what they thought would be an easy victory.

They were wrong.

Fighting enemies from within and without, the revolutionary leadership rallied the people and defeated its enemies. One by one the states of the "ancien regime" in Europe fell and were conquered by the nationalistic armies of France.

Soldiers forced into armies could not withstand the force of a nation at arms. The citizens of France were fighting for their freedom; the soldiers of their enemies were fighting because they were forced to.

The French spread their revolutionary doctrine throughout the nations they conquered. Believing totally in the righteousness of their cause, they forced the peoples of the regimes they conquered to pay the cost of maintaining their armies in the field.

Under Napoleon, the French turned their conquests into an empire and tried to convince Europe that as they were the continent's liberators, so they should be the ones to control it.

However, the real effect of French success was to breed nationalism in those states it defeated.

The keys to French pre-eminence became the keys to its downfall. With the ascendance of nationalist Europe, the modern world began.

Dynastic rivalries became national rivalries. Ethnic groups began agitating for recognition as states. Peoples conquered for centuries began demanding independence. Nationalism took on a chauvinistic streak. Centuries of rivalry within Europe became compounded by nationalism. The great powers mobilized their citizens to maximize the power of their states.

Through their empires they spread the doctrine of nationalism to the rest of the world and sowed the seeds of their own eclipse.

Eventually, inevitably, mass armed conflict resulted.

Both world wars were fought because of nationalism; ethnic cleansing and terrorist extremism are byproducts of it.

The 20th century has seen the irony of the United States fighting a war against a nationalistic uprising in Vietnam.

The Olympics and Nobel Prizes are used as nationalistic propaganda.

The question for the future is whether society can transcend nationalism. Can we stop clinging to a doctrine that sets peoples against one another in perpetuity?

In the 1960s the West's youth tried to break the stranglehold of nationalism and failed.

The United Nations has largely failed to mediate conflicts or reconcile states. The will of a nation under threat cannot be controlled except by force.

Even if nationalism were quashed, what would replace it? Would an all-purveying sense of apathy sweep the world? What would motivate people?

Without nationalism the world's billions would come face to face with the insignificance of their own reality. They would realize the pointlessness of their lives' materialistic endeavours.

Perhaps humanity is trapped by its own nature in a vicious cycle of conflict, misery and environmental degradation.

Perhaps nationalism is the lesser of two evils.

Peace doomed because war is profitable

CLINTON HAGGART
Staff Writer

North Korea's Communist government is moving in leaps and bounds towards reunification with South Korea. The United States is going to screw it up.

General Colin Powell, U.S. secretary of state, has made rude comments about North Korea's leader Kim Jong-Il. Powell called him a "dictator" and made other disparaging remarks about the leader. This remark by the U.S. government's top statesman shows how stupid Americans can be.

Kim was not pleased. He told the media that the U.S. is just trying to fuel its military economy.

North and South Korea, long divided artificially at the 38th parallel set at the Korean War's conclusion, are now in the midst of peace talks. This is not the first time U.S. involvement has screwed up international relations.

The American federal government still refuses to lift the trade embargo on Cuba, despite its being declared inhumane in many other governmental quarters.

The U.S. government fines countries that offer help to Cuba. The U.S. government hopes to fuel a revolution against Fidel Castro, Cuba's president, so its corporations can sell more guns and have their greasy, overweight fingers in another country.

Cuba cannot receive food, medical supplies, or help to restore farmland. People are poor and dying because of the U.S. policy.

Weapons used in the Middle East are manufactured on American soil. The wars in Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Kuwait were fought with U.S.-made weapons.

The U.S. does not deserve a seat in the United Nations or in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

They don't want to be peacekeepers. They want war because war means money.

SINK YOUR TEETH INTO THIS

Will the real Dracula please stand up

By MATT WATLING
Staff Writer

She's been the bride of Dracula for the past 10 years.

"It's a phenomenon that has affected just about every aspect of culture in the 20th century, like from the Count on Sesame Street to the Dracula production of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet," said Elizabeth Miller, a professor of English at Memorial University in Newfoundland. "When you think of a fictional character having had that much impact, it raises a lot of questions."

Miller is an expert on 19th century British gothic literature, with special interests in Mary Shelly's Frankenstein and Bram Stoker's Dracula. On Jan. 31, Miller spoke at Brock University's Senate Chamber. Her topic was the Dracula phenomenon.

"I'm going to start the Dracula story in 1431 in a country that is now Romania," said Miller. She said there was a military officer and governor of Transylvania known as Vlad. He was famous for battles against the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish army. Vlad was part of an order of knights who were leaders dedicated to fighting the Turks. The Order of the Dragon was the group's name and Vlad took a new name. He called himself Dracul, Romanian for dragon.

Vlad Dracul had a son in 1431 who took on the name Dracula, which translates to "son of the dragon."

"Young Vlad is far more famous than his dad," said Miller. Vlad Dracula became a leader too, ruling Romania from 1456 to 1462.

"He was notorious for his cruelty towards his enemy and earned the nickname the Impaler because his favourite method of executing his enemy was to impale them on long wooden stakes," said Miller. An estimated 20,000 to 100,000 people were impaled during Vlad's rule. "We don't know for sure how to prove these things."

Miller said that a lot of the stories of Vlad the Impaler were written by his enemies, including the Germans and Turks whose people he executed, "so it is very difficult to be sure what we're reading is very accurate or whether it is 15th century propaganda."

"He never called himself Vlad the Impaler," said Miller. She said the nickname was given to him by the Turks, and it stuck. Vlad is known in Romanian history as Vlad the Impaler, but he called himself Dracula.

Vlad was finally killed in battle in 1476 and his headless body was buried in a monastery. "In 1931 there was an expedition on the site. When they went down into Vlad's tomb, there was nothing there . . . the tomb was empty. To this day they don't know where he is."

Photo credit: The Complete Vampire Companion, Rosemary Ellen Guiley, MacMillan USA

VLAD DRACULA

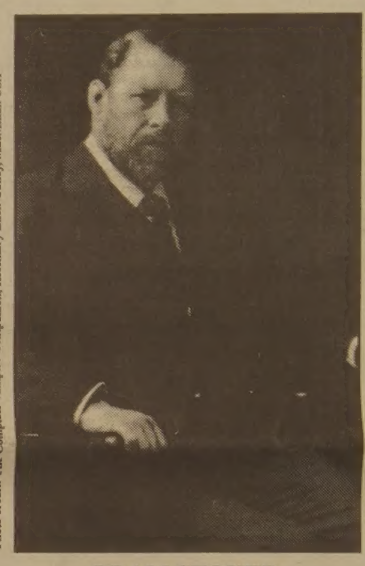


Photo credit: The Vampire Book, The Encyclopedia of the Undead, J. Gordon Melton, Gale Research Inc.

BRAM STOKER

"He's a national hero," she said, adding Vlad was like David versus Goliath, managing to scathe the Turkish army in battle. "The word Dracula has not been used in Romania because of the association with vampires."

"There was never any association between Vlad the Impaler and vampires until Bram Stoker used the nickname Dracula for his vampire novel. The name Dracula had nothing whatsoever to do with vampires until the 1890s. So the person that bought that novel in 1897 and started to read it would have no preconceptions. You can't say that today."

Stoker, the author of Dracula, was an Irishman born in Dublin in 1847. Stoker graduated from Trinity College with a major in mathematics. "His real love was the theatre," said Miller. Stoker, unhappy with working in his field, took a job writing theatre reviews for a newspaper, until he was offered a job managing a theatre in London. He wrote Dracula in his spare time, starting in 1890.

Miller said Stoker's key moment in writing the novel came on a family vacation in Whitby, England, in the summer of 1890.

"We don't know why or what on earth possessed him to do it. He went to the local library and picked up an obscure history book off the shelf and in it he read about a guy named Dracula," said Miller. Her personal theories on what he read are different from most Dracula historians' theories. "This book didn't have much impact on him," only a paragraph about Dracula, said Miller.

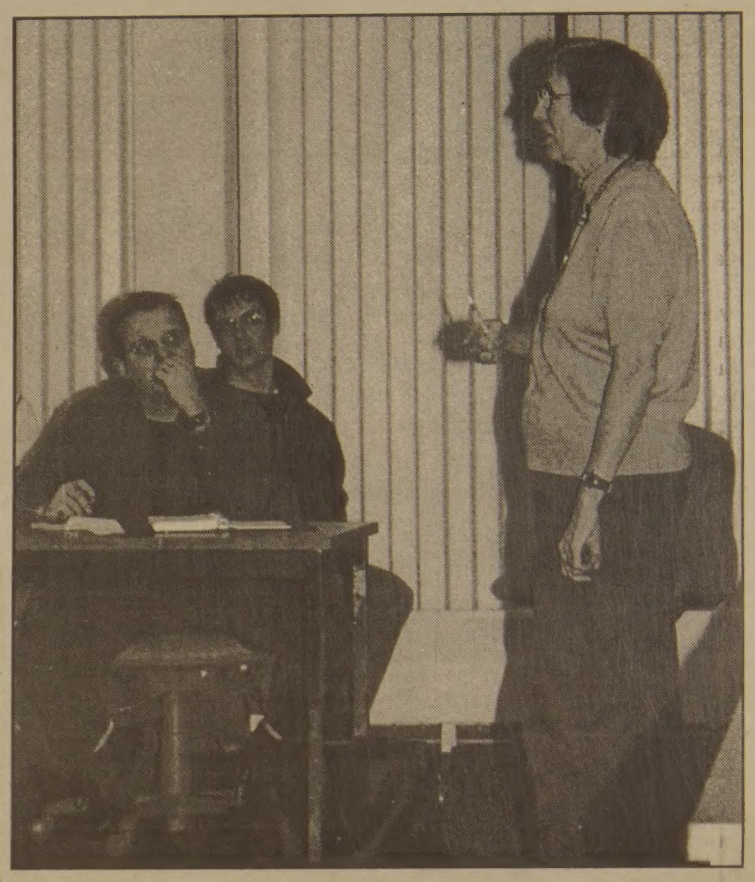
"The author of the book had a footnote citing the name Dracula, and in the footnote was that Dracula in a Romanian language means the devil." She said in the 400 or so years the meaning of Dracula changed from dragon to the devil.

"Nevermind what (film actor) Brad Pitt and the boys have done. Bram Stoker considered this book evil, and what better name than Dracula?"

Whitby was used as the setting for part of the novel. "Bram Stoker never went to Transylvania," said Miller, adding the original vampire for his novel was supposed to be from Austria. She said Stoker came across an article on Transylvania superstitions, including the idea of vampires. From that article Stoker took three pages of notes for his novel and created the home for his character — Transylvania, which means "the land beyond the forest."

Stoker's novel was first published in 1897 and has never been out of print. Miller said a copy of the original pressing of the novel has fetched as much as $15,000 US, and, if signed by Stoker, $30,000 US. Stoker died in 1912 and never really saw his novel rise to fame.

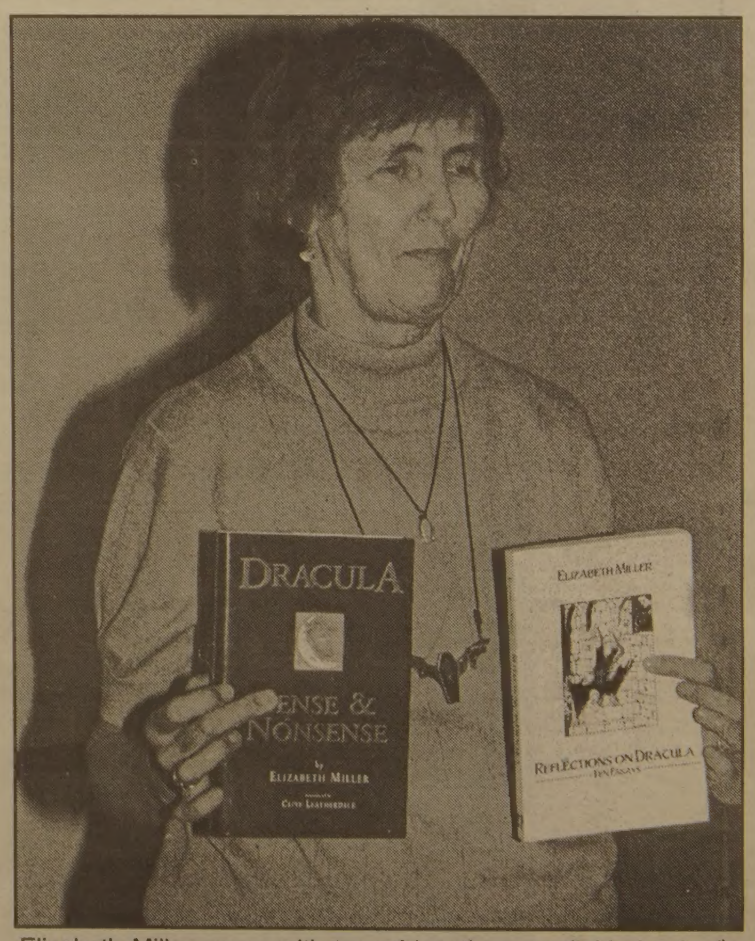
Miller's theory is that Stoker never knew much about the real Dracula; therefore, his character was not based on Vlad the Impaler. She has written three books on Dracula, with a fourth illustrated coffee-table book due out this month. As the president of the Canadian chapter of the Transylvanian Society of Dracula, Miller has travelled throughout the world as a special guest speaker. She has a Web site for people interested in learning more about vampires and the Dracula myth at www.ucs.mun.ca/~emiller.



Elizabeth Miller addresses an interested crowd at Brock University's Senate Chamber. A guest of the English department at Brock, Miller was on hand to discuss the Dracula phenomenon.
Photo by Matt Watling

Photo credit: The Vampire Book, The Encyclopedia of the Undead, J. Gordon Melton, Gale Research Inc.

In this scene, Vlad sits down to dinner, while surrounded by the impaled bodies of his enemies.



Elizabeth Miller poses with two of her three available books for sale. Miller's fourth book, an illustrated coffee-table book, is due out this month.
Photo by Matt Watling

MAID OF THE MIST CENTRE FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

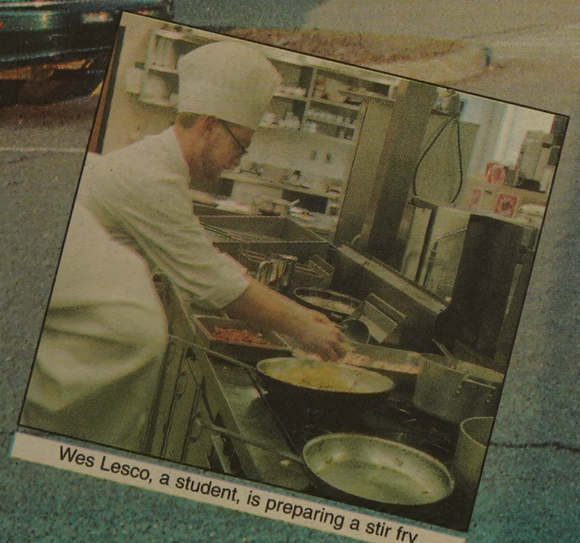
Dave Hicks, a student, shows off his "sweetly" decorated dessert

From left, Lesley Todd, (in back) Courtney General, Stacey MacPherson, Jackie Powell, Carrie Buckell take part in a class lecture.

Albert Cipryk is seen evaluating a students "culinary masterpiece."

Students serve up and prepare the meals in the Kerrio Room which is also the daytime restaurant.

Chefs showing off their freshly baked loaves of bread in their Baking Lab at the college



Wes Lesco, a student, is preparing a stir fry

Classroom action in Food Lab 2

From left, Santino Petrone, Andy DiPietro, Michael Campanaro, Amanda Feere, and Jeff Steen all catch up on the latest tourist guides available in the school's library

Photos by Brooke Dredge, Rachel Montour and Aaron Wilson

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Hockey breaking cultural, racial barriers

By SCOTT ROSTS
Staff Writer
Column

In 1946, the sports world changed forever when Jackie Robinson made his professional baseball debut.

Until that time, North American sports leagues had banned African-American athletes.

The National Football League, National Basketball Association and Canadian Football League all followed baseball's lead a few years later. By 1958, the National Hockey League (NHL) had its first black player, making all professional sports accessible to blacks.

Why was the NHL last? Some people suggest that since hockey players were mainly from Canada, cultural reasons were the culprit. In the 1950s, there were only about 125 spots for NHL players, a tough number for the small black population to crack.

Despite the existence of a Coloured Hockey League in the 1900s, the first major break for black hockey players was by Herbie Carnegie. Carnegie advanced through the minors as a great skater and scorer. In 1947, the New York Rangers invited him to their training camp and offered him a spot on their farm team. Carnegie decided to return to his previous league because it paid better.

On Jan. 18, 1958, Willie O'Ree played his first game for the Boston Bruins, making him the first black NHL player. At the time, O'Ree said he didn't experience the discrimination that coloured players did in other sports. Later in a documentary on his life, he did admit experiencing some racial taunting by some players.

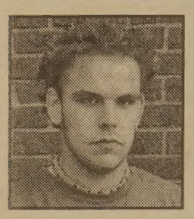
A few other players came and went, and by 1987-88, the first star with an African-Canadian background scored 40 goals in a season. Tony McKegney reached that career high with the St. Louis Blues. He finished his career with 350 goals in his career.

Grant Fuhr had to be the most successful black NHL player. The No. 1 goalie for the Edmonton Oilers during their Stanley Cup years, Fuhr was part of a team of Wayne Gretzky and other stars. Fuhr was the first black to have his name on the Stanley Cup.

Anson Carter, of the Edmonton Oilers, is one of the most significant black players in the game now. One of four blacks on the Oilers, Carter was been a member of Canada's world championship team in 1997 and its world championship team from 1994.

Hockey is not just for the white Canadian youngsters anymore. The racial and cultural barriers are being broken more and more every season. There are about 28 minority players on NHL rosters this season.

Black culture deeply rooted in rock music



By SCOTT THOMSON
Staff Writer
Column

Rock 'n' roll has changed the world.

Before rock music, there was nothing. I understand society was full of culture, but rock 'n' roll music gave teenagers an outlet for their frustrations.

Rock music brought the problems of the average kid to the surface and forced society to deal with them.

February being Black History Month, we should all take a look back and salute those who began the cultural revolution.

Rock 'n' roll music, in essence, was the combination of two drastically different music styles: country and the blues. The reason for this was simple: white culture was not ready to accept a music style created purely by the black man.

Country was white and the blues were black. By combining them, a musical "gray-tone" was created. Rock was for kids of all races.

Performers Chuck Berry and Fats Domino were legends of music long before the Beatles entered the U.S. in 1963. In fact, Berry had his first Top 10 hit in 1955 with the song *Maybellene*.

Berry was the first black man to successfully cross over to the "white" pop charts. He opened the door to many artists, of all races, and gave the pop musician hope.

Berry helped to formulate rock music's simple musical style. The music was fast, short and fun, characteristics apparent in most of his songs. His legacy remains.

Black culture played a heavy role in rock's early development.

Rock 'n' roll music gave blacks a way to fight the injustices they faced.

While Elvis Presley is "The King" of rock 'n' roll he was first thought by many listeners to be a black man. Before anyone saw him gyrate his hips, people thought Elvis was black. His voice, his musical style and even his dancing were directly inspired by black culture. Elvis is "The King" only because his music was so universal.

Rock music started in a changing time. The civil rights movement was taking a stand in the streets and U.S. President John F. Kennedy was in the White House. The music represented the change in North America. Music was one of the few things all teenagers could agree on.

The youth of the 1950s and 1960s started forming a social conscience and rock music had a hand in that. Without such a unifying force, would such a cultural exchange have taken place? It's doubtful.

Rock 'n' roll music gave blacks a way to fight the injustices they faced. While society still judged them on their appearance, performing music gave them an outlet into white culture.

Youth took over, listened to the problem and helped in the fight against racial hatred.

Many people argue rock 'n' roll is dead. They say the true spirit of the music has faded and all we are left with is this mainstream, well-produced noise. I completely disagree.

The "spirit" of the music still lives. It has changed over the years but I believe it now rests in hip-hop music.

Ideally, rap is about fighting oppression. The music is fairly simple, but the message and the passion are deeply rooted.

Rap is rock 'n' roll. They are one and the same. Both started as music to speak to teens, and both have changed the world.

Rock 'n' roll will live forever.

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

Feb. 12

• Isaac Burns Murphy, American jockey, dies, 1896.

Feb. 13

• The first black professional basketball team "the Renaissance" is formed, 1923.

Feb. 14

• Fredrick Douglass, the "Great Emancipator," born, 1817.

Feb. 15

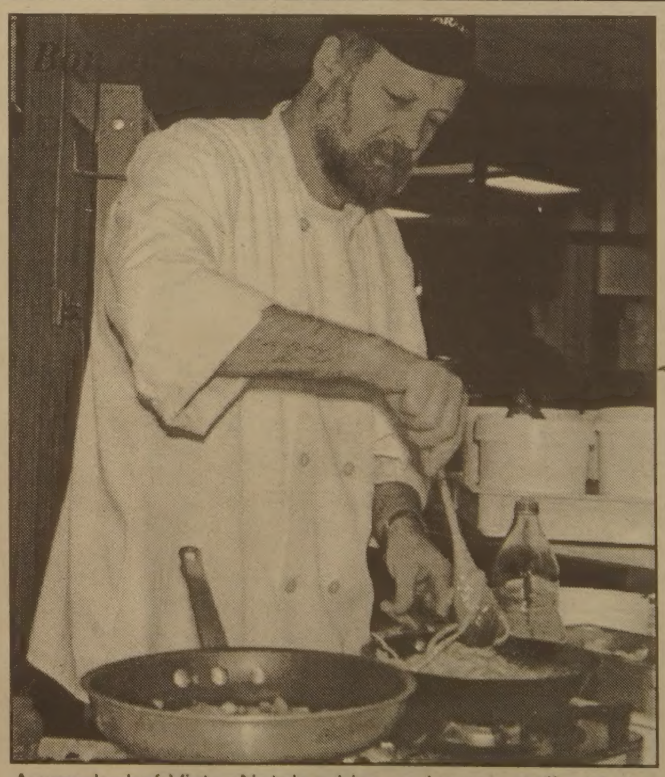
• U.S. and African nationalists protest slaying of Congo Premier, Patrice Lumumba. Disrupt United Nation sessions, 1961.

Feb. 16

• Joe Frazier defeats Jimmy Ellis to become boxing's world heavyweight champion, 1970.

Feb. 18

• National Independence Day in Gambia.



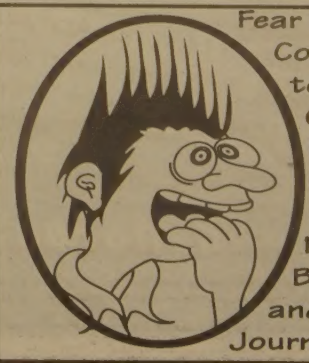
Aramark chef Victor Natale whips up hungry staff and students pasta "made to order"at the Mr. Sub stand, Welland campus.

Photo by Paul Finelli

Quote of the Week

'Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.'

— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Fear not young man!
Congratulations goes out to Clinton Haggart.
On Monday, Clinton begins his career as a reporter/photographer for the Clinton News - Record.
Best of Luck from staff and students of the Journalism-Print program.

HEALTH FILES

College prepared for fire emergencies

By RACHEL MONTOUR
Staff Writer

In a fire, Niagara College is prepared, college officials say.

James Davis, 22, of Crystal Beach, Ont., is in his first year of the General Arts and Science program at the college's Welland campus. Davis says, "I feel safe. I know fire is unlikely to happen, but I wouldn't know what to do or where to go if there was a fire."

Asked if this concerns him, he says, "Yes, because we should have a plan set up to ensure safety for disabled students at the college." Davis has cerebral palsy.

Rick Demers, of Welland, manager of health, safety and security, says college personnel are ready if there is a fire. "Anytime there is an alarm activated, what we have is a group of fire wardens that all have assigned areas. They go and evacuate everyone from their respective areas. We have to check out the cause of the alarm. The fire department shows up. We help them investigate. We either get people out or, if there is no actual fire, we still investigate and find out what caused the alarm to go off."

He says officers will allow people to come back in only "when it's absolutely safe."

"We have specific refuge areas for people with disabilities to go to because it makes it easier for them to go to these areas. It's much safer all around and we would evacuate them from there if the need arose."

He says the college has fire drills twice a year. "Those are done to identify problem areas like if equipment isn't working properly. We judge the response of the people at evacuation."

"The No. 1 priority is always people's safety. Equipment is second. Damage doesn't really count. It's getting people out safely."

Gilles Prescott, of Montreal, is the co-ordinator for The Centre for Students with Disabilities. "Definitely, with all buildings, you have to plan for such an eventuality," says Prescott. "Whether it's a fire or any other kind of emergency, the institution has a plan for evacuation."

"It definitely is important, particularly for people with mobility impairment. We have to make sure that everybody is going to be evacuated in a proper manner."

"All the emergency evacuation procedures have been reviewed by a consultant, a professional in that area," says Prescott.

In all areas of the facilities where there is a second and/or third floor and staircases, the college has refuge areas in the buildings. There are two refuge areas in the Simcoe building, one on the second floor and another on the third floor. There are two refuge areas in the Merritt Wing of the Welland campus. There are two refuge areas at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake on the second and third floors. There are refuge areas in the Welland library.

"The refuge areas have been located close to staircases and close to areas where students can be evacuated," Prescott says, adding, "The refuge area signs that we have right now are just temporary. We are working at a better sign that explains what the refuge area is all about."

"The important point for students with mobility impairment to keep in mind is that the refuge area is there, as a place to meet if you can't get out. If you're on the second or third floor of Simcoe and you're in a wheelchair and you can't walk, obviously you can't go anywhere but there. The fire warden will inform the fire rescue crew, who will then come and get you out.

"We don't want other students or anybody in the college to start picking up people in wheelchairs and taking them down (the stairs). There's too much danger of dropping the person and harming them even more. Fire rescue crews are trained in that field, rescuing people and taking them out."

Prescott says it is "not recommended" to use elevators during a fire emergency. "So the safe area is there to make sure we know where students who need help would go, as opposed to being all over the floor." He says "within a couple of minutes" people in the refuge areas will be taken out.

Women continue to face injustices worldwide

By CRYSTAL LANGILLE
Staff Writer

What affects one of us will eventually affect all of us.

On Feb. 10, "V" day marked a worldwide movement to end the horrific violence against women.

"V" Day, or Vagina Day, began in 1997 by Eve Ensler, female activist and writer of the all-woman Broadway play The Vagina Monologues.

About 50 cities and 230 college campuses across the U.S. participated in fund-raisers to raise awareness about the injustices that women face worldwide.

Prominent women including TV talk show host Oprah Winfrey, actress Jane Fonda and television star Calista Flockhart gathered at Madison Square Gardens in New York City for a day of seminars and lectures complete with The Vulva Choir to raise funds for assistance.

One of the biggest atrocities that women endure is female genital mutilation (FGM) or female circumcision.

FGM involves cutting the clitoris, labia minora and majora with an unsterilized blade, sewing the vulva and leaving only a small hole to permit menstrual blood and urine to leave the body.

This is done to girls between the ages of five and 12. There is no medical freezing and no numbing of the pain.

The woman is later cut open to allow her husband to have intercourse, further cut to allow for childbirth and re-sewn after delivery.

In some societies, it is customary for the husband to thrust violently into his bride as soon as she is cut open. Quantities of her blood are considered a sign of his prowess.

In some countries in the Middle East and Africa, FGM is considered tradition. It is often called a rite of passage.

However, it is used to destroy sexual desire and to deter women from adultery.

Immediate medical consequences of this procedure include hemorrhaging, shock, blood poisoning, tetanus and fever, all of which can lead to death.

Even more horrific, some young girls break their bones during the struggle to free themselves from the people holding them down.

If the cuts heal slowly, girls may develop infections, anemia, malnutrition, pelvic infection and cysts.

It can often cause urinary infections and kidney disease, leading to high blood pressure and cardiovascular failure.

She may also become unable to menstruate because of the scars covering the vagina. This leads to the accumulation of menstrual fluid in the vagina and the uterus. She is likely to find intercourse painful because of the scar tissue, yet seeking a divorce can warrant death.

It is reported that 130 million females worldwide have experienced FGM.

In Afghanistan, women are punished for attending school, working, laughing or showing their ankles.

In India, two million girls between the ages of seven and 15 have been sold into prostitution and slavery.

Each year, 5,000 women are killed for being raped. This is referred to as honour killing.

It is considered honourable for a woman's brother or father to kill her if she has been raped, ensuring that humiliation is not brought upon the family.

In Bangladesh, women can face acid attacks if a man feels rejected in any way. For instance, it is customary that a 50-year-old man may marry a girl as young as 11.

If she rejects his proposal, he can legally throw acid in her face, ensuring that no other man will desire her.

In a country like Bangladesh, the woman often dies by starvation. A woman relies on the man she will marry to pay for her basic necessities.

"Women are basically living as walking corpses and they're dying in droves," says Ensler on a recent episode of The Oprah Winfrey show.

"We want to create a worldwide movement where women will say, 'No more violence.'"

For information on how to help, visit www.womenforwomen.org. Women for Women International is an organization that matches suffering women with women in North America and Britain.

A woman in need receives $25 a month plus a letter from her sponsor. She is then able to care for herself and her children and can often save enough money to escape her husband and country.

On www.Heifer.org, you can buy animals for women and their children in war-torn countries.

The International Justice Mission, at www.IJM.org, helps to fight against forced prostitution and child-sex slavery.

At www.equalitynow.org, 7,000 people have already helped women facing injustices.

Getting involved in the fight against the discrimination of women "can make the difference between hope and holding on or nothing at all," said Ensler adding, "We do have the power. We are the majority of the population."

Be a BUDDY, help your friend quit!

"I drew up a contract to help you to quit smoking . . . if you smoke you owe me $100,000."

For more info on how to support your friend
STOP BY OUR DISPLAYS
Tuesdays @ Glendale/MMC & Wednesdays @ Welland

Leave the Pack Behind

http://www.leavethepackbehind.org

Funding for this program has been provided in part by the Ontario Tobacco Strategy, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. No endorsement by the ministry is intended or
should be inferred. La Stratégie antitabac de l'Ontario, Direction de la santé communautaire et de la promotion de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée
finance ce programme en partie. Le ministère ne sanctionne d'aucune façon l'information contenue dans cette publication.

The 'Leave the Pack Behind' name for this program has been adopted, with permission, from the World Health Organization's 1999 World No Tobacco day campaign.

Created by: Catherine Leblanc & Erika Steibelt, Queen's University

ENTERTAINMENT

Haggis not just sheep guts anymore

By CLINTON HAGGART
Staff Writer
Band Feature

When you put three pop musicians, a rocker and three folk musicians together you get Haggis.

Named after the popular Scottish meal made from sheep guts, they are a traditional Celtic band with a modern style.

Haggis, of Cornwall, Ont., began in 1998, in Glengarry County. The members were lead singer Nick Seguin, percussionist Jason Mitchell, keyboardist Gilles Levac and Jeb Nubbins, who plays tire-iron and comb.

Fiddler Jeff Barker, Glenn Forrester, bass player (formerly of the Barstool Prophets), and Brent Santin, who plays the Irish flute, tin-whistle, bones, bodhran (a Celtic drum) and the mandolin, were added in 1999 to complete Haggis.

Haggis released a demo CD to sell to friends and family so they could finance the recording of their debut album, **AutoScot**.

"It's hard for small indie bands," said Santin. The members have day jobs. Santin, 30, works for Parks Canada History and at the Upper Canada Village.

Levac, 30, teaches music at a school in Ottawa. Seguin, 20, is studying theatre in Toronto.

Forrester, 30, owns a furniture company, Barker, 30, works for a moving company and Mitchell, 27, works for a telecommunications company.

Santin said his parents weren't interested in Celtic music. Although his mother is from Cape Breton, Santin said, "There was a revival in the '70s. Parents aren't into it as much as kids are."

AutoScot, which was recorded by Forrester in his studio, contains rare traditional Celtic songs from Ireland, Scotland, Britain and Canada.

Killerkrankie was a poem by Robert Burns about a battle there in 1689. Highlanders and British soldiers battled in July of that year. Haggis added a rock/pop beat that speeds it up.

Tripping Up The Stairs/ Morrison's are traditional Irish songs with a rock beat. *The Lullaby Song* is a slow melody that will get the ladies up to dance.

Fiona, written by Santin, is a hilarious song about a young man who finds out how painful it is to woo a woman.

All Around My Hat is about a man who wears a sprig of willow in his hat in hopes of his lover's return, even though she won't.

Johnnie I Hardly Knew Ye is a familiar tune to most. It sounds like a rocked-up version of *The Ants Go Marching*. It is a traditional anti-war song in Ireland.

The King's Company, written by Santin, is about a British soldier who becomes a pirate after he finds out how his fellow soldiers are abusing the poor Acadians.

Longford Tune/I Have A Bonnet are both traditional songs that are rocked-up.

Nancy Whiskey is a song warning young men to avoid the kiss of whisky. Whisky is also known as "uisce," which means water of life to the Gaels.

South Australia starts with a few verses of the English sea shanty, then breaks into the more familiar version with a rock beat.

Both Sides The Tweed is a political commentary on the Scottish-English Act of Union.

Clockwise, from bottom left: Glenn Forrester, Gilles Levac, Nick Seguin, Brent Santin, Jason Mitchell and Jeff Barker.

Submitted photo

The Forgotten Well/The Kerry Cow are instrumental tunes that start slowly (a couple of sheeps bleating) but soon pick up the pace.

All the songs have a defined Celtic tune and Haggis gives them a unique style because of the diverse backgrounds of the band members. The songs will make you want to dance down to the bar for a drink. With the Celtic revival in music in the younger generations and because of the traditional tunes, Haggis will please young and old.

Haggis has several politically influenced songs, but they take no specific stance. Santin said, "A lot of people don't understand they're (the songs) totally made up." He said they get requests for Irish Republic Army songs, but they won't play them. Santin says Haggis won't get involved.

In 2000, Haggis played the Glengarry Highland Games, in Ontario, and the Canmore Highland Games, in Alberta, two of the largest Scottish festivals in North America. Haggis was flown to the Canmore Highland Games and played in front of a crowd of 1,500 people, said Santin.

CBC Radio has declared Haggis suitable for airplay, and Santin says he hopes to be heard on the radio some time this month.

They will be added to the CBC library in all provinces.

Santin said Haggis hopes to release a second album by Christmas. He added there will be more originals. Visit their Website at www.glen-net.ca/haggis.

Hannibal more psychological than horror

By KEVIN HARTFORD
Staff Writer
Movie Review

Hannibal is back.

Anthony Hopkins's famous psychologist-slash-cannibal has returned to movie screens in director Ridley Scott's new film Hannibal, a follow-up to the phenomenally successful 1991 film Silence of the Lambs.

In Silence of the Lambs, FBI agent Clarice Starling had to find the hiding place of a serial killer with the help of a not-so-friendly flesh-eating psychotic named Hannibal Lecter. In Hannibal, Starling takes the blame for a drug bust gone bad, is disgraced by the FBI, and has to deal with corrupt cops and former victims trying to capture an escaped Lecter for their own profit. Not to mention the fact that Lecter seems to be stalking her.

In Hannibal, Julianne Moore takes over the role of Starling from Jodie Foster, who won an Academy Award for her role in Silence of the Lambs. Moore gives a credible performance as Starling, but isn't required to do much else than act angry and determined. Hopkins seems to be having more fun with his character in this film, and Lecter comes off as more of a comedian and less of a threatening serial killer.

The other significant characters in the film are an Italian policeman named Rinaldo Pazzi, played by Giancarlo Giannini, an American millionaire Mason Verger, played by Gary Oldman, and a jealous FBI agent named Paul Krendler, played by Ray Liotta. Pazzi attempts to help kidnap Lecter for Verger, who wants revenge on the doctor who hideously deformed his face, and Krendler helps Verger destroy Starling's credibility.

The film isn't a horror movie as Silence of the Lambs was; it's more of a psychological thriller. The acting is good, the directing is good and the cinematography is excellent, but there's nothing about the film that's exceptional.

DREAM comes true for 'Puff Daddy' label

By NAUMAN FAROOQ
Staff Writer
CD Review

If you are into blues, jazz, rock, punk, R&B, metal or country music and despise the existence of pop music, stop reading right now because the group featured here won't interest you.

However, if you're into Britney Spears and the Spice Girls, you might be interested.

A new music group has been born in the United States (as are most modern pop groups) called DREAM.

At least on the looks part, they've got the name right, and I'm sure they'll be the stuff of dreams for many boys. The music, well . . .

First, a short history lesson on the group.

Started in Los Angeles, Calif., the four-girl band — Melissa, 16, Ashley, 15, Diana, 15, and Holly, 15 — is the brainchild of Kenny Burns, who runs a management firm called 2620 Music, which tries to find new talent.

As a result, the four girls became the members of DREAM.

The next step for any up-and-coming group is to find a record deal. Every artist needs a break, and boy, oh boy, did they get one.

When the foursome performed at the Beverly Hills Hotel for a private showcase, they caught the eye of performer Sean "Puff Daddy" Combs, who immediately signed them with his Bad Boy Entertainment.

This way, Combs gets to diversify his record label, and the girls got the financial backing they need to endorse their album and make music videos.

The first single, *He Loves You Not*, was released and quickly rose up the charts. The single reached its peak by staying at No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 countdown for two weeks. Their album, **It Was All a Dream**, reached the No. 6 spot on its first week of release by selling 105,000 copies, quite an accomplishment for a brand new talent.

Enough about the history, so how is the album?

How anyone likes the album is really dependent on what kind of music one likes. Their hit single *He Loves You Not* is a very catchy tune. *Do You Wanna Dance* is also a good dance song and the yet-to-be-released second single, *This Is Me*, is also tuneful, but like most new acts, most of their material sounds pretty much the same, give or take a few tunes.

The biggest letdown in the album, in my opinion, is the intro called *It Was All a Dream*. I've heard some awful intros before, but this one really takes the cake; they could have simply done without it.

If you are into pop music and are tired of listening to your old Spice Girls album, you might want to give DREAMS a shot. If you want learn more about the group, log on to www.thedreamsite.com for more information.

ENTERTAINMENT

What Lies Beneath short on fan appeal

By JOËL D. HERRINGTON
Staff Writer
Movie Review

What Lies Beneath is an old-fashioned Alfred Hitchcock kind of movie. It tries to scare you with howling winds and doors that open by themselves, but it is futile in its attempts.

Although director Robert Zemeckis's film is classified as a horror, the thriller title suits it best. It actually takes about 30 minutes for the story to get interesting. There are no special effects, yet certain scenes create good moments of suspense. Unfortunately, the observant eye can immediately guess the movie's protagonist (bad guy).

Michelle Pfeiffer (Dangerous Minds) and Harrison Ford (The Fugitive) star as a married couple who possess a troubled past. When Pfeiffer starts seeing ghosts inside the house, the movie starts.

The haunted house and its surroudings environment may remind you of a classic horror flick named Psycho.

Ironically, the haunting incidents that are troubling Pfeiffer only begin when her daughter leaves for college. Once Ford discovers his wife's problems, he sends her to a psychiatrist. As the story unfolds, Pfeiffer is forced to find out the truth before the incidents become fatal.

The setting and clever camera angles are the most notable aspects of the movie. The haunted house and its surrounding environment may remind you of a classic horror flick named Psycho. As for the camera work, the angles are obscure and creative. They provide a variety of views unlike the usual camerawork.

In general, What Lies Beneath does not stand out among the better horror/thriller films from the past decade.

In general, What Lies Beneath does not stand out among the better horror/thriller films from the past decade. Nonetheless, fans of Hitchcock will enjoy this film because of its simple plot and basic scary effects.

A word of warning to those who like and dislike close-ups on women's feet: Pfeiffer is barefoot nearly all the time, and the camera angles emphasize them. If you hate feet, don't rent this movie.

Despite its originality and movie-star quality, What Lies Beneath is short on fan appeal, interest and scenes of horror. Therefore, I give this video release a rating of three out of five stars.

54-40 rocks bar; gives audience great concert

By SCOTT ROSTS
Staff Writer
Music Review

What an experience it was.

54-40's Casual Viewin' Pop Experience made its way to Big Buck's Mountain Lodge in St. Catharines on Feb. 8.

The band is touring in support of its 13th release, **Casual Viewin'**. They were joined by special guest openers, Paloma, headed by a friend, Coco Love Alcorn.

The show was typical 54-40, who brought down the house with rocking hits. They rocked the St. Catharines bar with hit songs including *Radio Luv Song, Lies To Me* and *She La*. They mixed in songs from their new release, including the title track *Unbend* and their newest single, *Blue Sky*.

The medium-sized crowd reacted well to the older songs, especially when Neil Osborne, vocalist and guitar, pulled out his acoustic guitar and invited them to sing along with hits *Ocean Pearl* and *I Go Blind*, which was covered by Hootie and the Blowfish on the soundtrack for the television show Friends.

'I'm shaking around so much my pants are falling down.'
— Neil Osborne

Osborne and company were moving and shaking all over the stage to entertain fans.

"I'm shaking around so much my pants are falling down," Osborne told the crowd.

Despite a brilliant show by the band, the most interesting part was the opening act, Paloma.

Led by vocalist Alcorn, there was something familiar about her band. Upon further investigation, it turned out that it was the boys of 54-40 in disguise.

Osborne was in the back playing keyboards, as was guitarist Phil Comparelli. Matt Johnson was hiding on drums and bassist Brad Merritt was the disguised bass player.

Whether they were part of Paloma or their own band, 54-40 gave fans a great show. If you are a 54-40 fan and you couldn't check out this show, try picking up the album **Heavy Mellow**. It's a double-disc release with a regular live set and a live acoustic set. You may not be able to see the band, but just hearing it is a treat in itself.

Gray's time to shine

By RYAN McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer
Music Review

In so vast a galaxy that is the music industry, it is not hard to imagine a great artist being cast by the wayside, and such appears to be the case with David Gray.

Nearly a decade after his first album was released, this British folk artist is finally getting some much-deserved attention.

This album is beautifully mastered, and every track is a delight.

With support from long-time fan Dave Matthews, Gray's newest album has just been released on this side of the Atlantic. **White Ladder**, which features the hit single *Babylon*, is full of highly emotional songs that are sure to appease diehard fans and casual listeners alike.

The album has an exceptional history in that it was very nearly never made. When it was, it was recorded in the living room of a London flat with the noise of the traffic below filling the room.

While **White Ladder** flows from your speakers, you are likely to feel the hairs on your arms raise and tears sting your eyes. This album is beautifully mastered, and every track is a delight.

Though not all of the tracks are as radio comfortable as *Babylon*, all the songs are full of genuine feeling that Gray conveys in his reedy, unassumingly beautiful voice, somewhat reminiscent of Van Morrison.

Also available is the enhanced-CD version of the disc, which allows you to play the CD in your computer and experience a video commentary by Gray. As well, there are a short biography and a collection of Internet links for additional information.

90.1 CRNC
Campus Radio Niagara College

THE ALL 80s PRE-PUB BASH
THURSDAYS @ 6-9
Hosted by the Ladies from the 80's
Sarah Cashel and Vanessa Babb

THE ORBITAL SOUND STATION
TUESDAYS @ 6:00
Send yourself into orbit with Derek Martin
Spinning the Hottest Rave Music

THE REVIVAL HOUR
MONDAYS @ 2:30
Matt Burg featuring an hour of your
Favourite Christian Hit Music

As submitted by CRNC

THROUGH THE HOOP

Player ineligibility results in no playoffs

By AARON WILSON
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights men's basketball team is out of contention for a playoff berth, having forfeited two prior wins because of a player's ineligibility. Their season ends here tomorrow, Feb. 17. They are 4-7.

The reason is Matt Roberts. The centre was ineligible in two games, one against Redeemer College, of Ancaster, on Jan. 19 and the second, against Mohawk College, of Hamilton, on Jan. 23. Niagara won both games.

Ray Sarkis, Niagara's athletic director, says Roberts "did not inform" him or the coaching staff of the ineligibility. He discovered Roberts's status when he talked to the student's academic program co-ordinator and found he had no timetable as he wasn't registered.

Sarkis says he "immediately informed the OCAA (Ontario Colleges Athletic Association" of the situation. This is when the OCAA registered the two-game forfeit in which Roberts played as an ineligible player.

Sarkis declined to specify the reason for Roberts' ineligibility citing Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation.

Kyle Young, rookie forward for the Knights, says he doesn't respect Roberts as a teammate but, "I respected his leadership and his voice. The rookies feel bad, but the veterans feel even worse."

For some of the players this was their last season with the Knights. Curtis Francis, forward, Aaron Paisley, forward, and Haldon Hutchinson, captain, all will not be back in a Knights uniform next year. The Knights' were well on their way to a playoff spot, needing only one more win.

Landen Walsh, rookie guard, says Roberts was "a good guy, but what he did was extremely wrong and selfish."

The Niagara Knights lost a nailbiter against Mohawk College, of Hamilton, 72-69 on Feb. 13. The Knights played an excellent game but couldn't hit the last minute shot to tie it up.

The team got strong performances from forward Ernell Ellis, who scored 25 points leading the team, and Paisley, who netted 15 and was big crashing rebounds. Paisley shared his thoughts on the first half: "We started to slow down, but we picked up intensity. Then momentum built up, and we took the lead into the half."

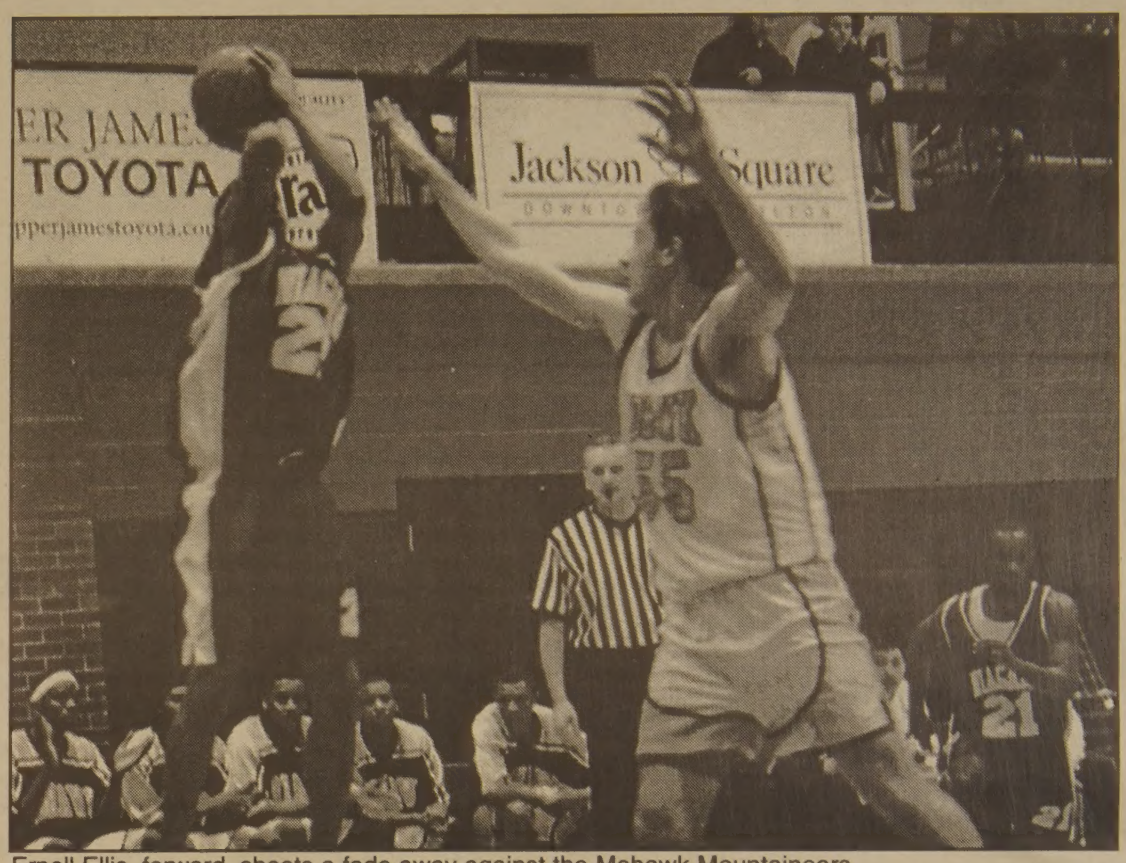
He says the thing that frustrated the team the most was "(Mohawk's) low-post game was difficult to defend."

Francis says he felt he wasn't getting any calls from the refs. "I was getting fouled a lot but no calls were made." Taking in the situation, he says, "The team played a tough game."

Hutchinson played well, scoring 13 and hitting some key shots down the stretch. Edson Jones, point guard, scored 11. Jones hit a clutch three pointer, giving the Knights a chance in the end.

Coach Ralph Nero says the team played "very well" considering what happened. "I thought they showed a lot of character."

The Knights have now dropped three road games in a row. Niagara lost to Lambton College, of Sarnia, 100-93 on Feb. 9 and to St. Clair College, of Windsor, 97-89, on Feb. 10.



Ernell Ellis, forward, shoots a fade away against the Mohawk Mountaineers.

Photo by Aaron Wilson

Women's basketball team mathematically eliminated from playoffs

By AARON WILSON
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights women's basketball team is mathematically eliminated from the playoffs.

The Knights lost to Mohawk College, of Hamilton, 72-60 on Feb. 13. Niagara was losing by 36 points with eight minutes to go. The loss takes the team to four and 12.

Turnovers led to missed opportunities throughout the first half, and the Knights could not recover.

Carrie Stratford, forward, had a huge game, scoring 20 points with 18 of those coming in the second half. "We were kinda cold in the first, but opened up in the second and started capitalizing."

Jan Douglas, forward, scored 13 points. She says, "We could have won, but it just came down to who wanted to win tonight."

Tasha Warwick, guard, netted seven points. "Too many turnovers, we played in spurts, started flat, but went up."

Coach Georgie Groat says the team was "uptight because they knew they had to win this game to be in the playoffs." She says the team "lacked confidence" going into this competition.

This loss puts the Knights at 4-12 with two games remaining. All they can do is play them out. Niagara next plays a road game against Durham College, of Oshawa, tonight. Their last game of the year is at home against Georgian College, of Barrie, on Feb. 23.

West Region Individual Statistics

Men's Basketball

Name	Team	GP	Ppg	Ft%
(1) Talbot	St. Clair	8	29.8	75.0
(2) Voortman	Redeemer	10	21.6	63.5
(3) Ellis	*Niagara*	*10*	*21.3*	*64.3*

Women's Basketball

(1) McKenzie	Seneca	14	23.2	74.8
(2) Kort	Georgian	15	20.1	66.0
(9) Stratford	*Niagara*	*15*	*13.6*	*44.1*
(10) Douglas	*Niagara*	*15*	*13.2*	*56.9*

Legend

GP- Games Played **Ppg**- Points Per Game **Ft%**- Free Throw Per Cent

Tasha Warwick, guard for the Niagara Knights, lays it up for two against Mohawk Mountaineers.

Photo by Aaron Wilson

SPORTS

Women's team wins sixth straight match

By JOËL D. HERRINGTON
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights women's volleyball team has won six straight matches, including their last five on the road. The team's recent success on the road has given them an opportunity to clinch a bye for the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) provincial championship. From Feb. 22 to 24, at Centennial College in Scarborough, Ont., the province's top eight teams will battle for a chance to qualify for the national championship.

On Feb. 13, at Redeemer College, in Ancaster, Ont., the Knights finished a five-game road trip with another enthusiastic triumph. "It shows that all their hard work and their efforts over the past three or four months is finally paying off," says head coach Carolyn Welden.

Traditionally, Welden says her team plays well on the road towards the end of the season. The wins show mental and physical character because they've minimized errors on the road and at home, says Welden. "If anything, it (road games) makes them stronger 'cause they are able to gel as a unit."

In front of a large and vocal crowd, Niagara basically crushed the Royals' chance of making the playoffs. The scores were 25-16, 25-16, 22-25 and 25-15. The 9-4 Knights have displayed a trunkload of perseverance and determination since the Christmas break.

"They're noticing their own self-improvement and the team improvement," says Welden.

Although Redeemer had the greater number of fans attending, Niagara sent a bus-full of vociferous Knights' boosters to support the men and women's team. Students from the Glendale and Welland campus used pots, pans and four-litre bottles filled with change, to distract the opponents and to encourage their volleyball teams. "The Niagara Knights were superb," says Joel Yearwood, of the Welland campus.

During the past weekend, the Knights continued their dominance of the season's second half, with victories over Lambton College, of Sarnia, and Windsor's St. Clair College. Leading the way for Niagara's match on Friday versus Lambton was right side Diane VandenHoven and 6' 1" middle Nicole Carleton-Burnham, who posted 17 and 13 offensive points respectively. The Knights won three straight games and handed the Lions their eighth loss of the season. The scores were 25-11, 27-25 and 25-18.

At St. Clair on Feb. 10, power-hitter Ginni Llord exploded for 17 kills. Windsor's team was in second place within the West Region, but Niagara won the match by scores of 25-21, 28-26, 17-25 and 25-15.

With these three recent road wins, the Knights are now tied with St. Clair for second place. Throughout the entire season, Llord has often given the other team's defence tremendous difficulties. Most teams in the West have no answer for the veteran or fourth-year star VandenHoven. Within the region's individual stats and standings, VandenHoven is in third place with an average of 3.7 points per game (ppg) and Llord stands in sixth with 3.2 ppg.

Welden and her team will play their final game of the season at home tonight, against the Mohawk Mountaineers. Hamilton's Mohawk College is the No. 1 team in the West. Even though the Knights have clinched a playoff spot, a win over Mohawk could solidify a guaranteed position in the OCAA provincials.

"Friday is crucial," says Welden.

Niagara, Mohawk and St. Clair are in a tight battle for the top two positions. Since they'll most likely face teams outside of their region in the playoffs, Welden says the team will not change their approach going into the post-season. "(We'll) still try to focus on our own game plan."

Knights power-hitter Amy Hamon shows her athletic agility with a right-handed smash against Redeemer College last Tuesday.

Photo by Paul Mooney

Knights triumph in its first undefeated season

By JOËL D. HERRINGTON
Staff Writer

In tonight's match against Hamilton's Mohawk College, the Niagara Knights men's volleyball team will be looking for its first undefeated season. Last week, the Knights clinched a birth to the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) championship. The recent win over Redeemer has guaranteed Niagara the No. 1 spot in the West Region.

Head coach Blair Cudmore and assistant coach Kerby Bentley have trained and guided their team to a 14-0 record. Niagara has been named Men's Team of the Week by the (OCAA).

The Knights travelled to Redeemer College in Ancaster, Ont., last Tuesday, for an intense battle versus the second-place Royals. The Knights' fan appreciation bus transported two dozen screaming fanatics to the little college of 600 students. Most high schools in the Niagara Region have more students than Redeemer.

Although the Royals' supporters outnumbered the Knights' fans, Niagara's students ferociously clanged their pots and pans, as Niagara defeated Redeemer in four games. With every smash from right side Graeme Gaunt and power Josh Gunnell, the Knights' cheering section erupted in unison.

In Games 1 and 2, Niagara easily triumphed over the red and white Royals by scores of 25-19 and 25-13. The always-dangerous mental errors cost Niagara the third game. Their spikes were going out of bounds and the stuff blocks were futile against Redeemer's offence. The Knights lost Game 3 25-21, but the boys in blue completed the match with a close 25-22 victory in Game 4.

Power/setter Cory Lahey, overmatches Redeemer's defenders with a powerful kill over their outstretched arms.

Photo by Joël D. Herrington

The last time Niagara faced Redeemer, they hammered the Royals in less than one hour.

Nearly 100 students gathered to watch their Royals get pounded by Niagara on Tuesday. Four-year veteran and defensive specialist (libero) Cuneyt Akgol, 24, says the crowd reminded him of last year's OCAA championship. Both Niagara and Redeemer fans competed to secure the crown for the crowd cheering the loudest.

Looking over the past two years, it is hard to find an occasion where the Knights were defeated during the regular season. Akgol, who also won a provincial championship in high school, says he has never played with or seen a better volleyball team. "We haven't lost since November of 1999."

Akgol attributes the college's strong volleyball program to Athletic Director Ray Sarkis, Cudmore and Bentley. Together, they have built a competitive and respected volleyball program, says Akgol. "Hopefully, this program will be like this for a long time."

"We're not going to take it for granted. We have to punish the team we're going to play, so that we have a good mentality going into the provincials."

During the weekend of Feb. 22, Niagara will travel to Seneca College in North York, Ont., where they'll defend their OCAA title. The Knights are ranked third in the country and could possibly climb to second place, if they are successful tonight versus the Mohawk Mountaineers.

This is the final chance for fans to see the undefeated Knights. The women's team will start the night at 6 p.m. and the men will follow at 8 p.m.

EMPLOYMENT

Place your employment Ad - (905) 735-2211or 641-2252 ext. 7748

"CONSIDER A CAREER IN HORTICULTURE"

NURSERY/GREENHOUSE: Wholesale nursery, growing ground covers, flowering shrubs, evergreens, flowering vines, dwarf trees, and perennial flowers will be hiring additional staff for spring, both full time and seasonal. Employment is needed in potting, tagging and tying, shipping, growing, management, and propagation. Work involves being both indoors and outside. Wages and positions commensurate with experience. Resumes may be dropped off between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday at:

Willowbrook Nurseries Inc.,
1000 Balfour Strees
Fenwick, Ont.
L0S 1C0
Attention: Jane Broere

We thank you for your application, however only those considered will be notified

Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

Lakeside Residential Girls Camp in Maine—Visas Arranged

Counselors: Combined childcare/teaching. Must be able to teach or lead one or more of the following activities: gymnastics, tennis, swim, sail, canoe, water ski, arts (including stained glass, sewing, jewelry, wood, photo), dance, music, theatre, archery, wilderness trips, field sports, equestrian.

Service Workers: kitchen, laundry, housekeeping, maintenance & grounds.

Non-smokers. June 17 to August 23. Attractive salary (US) plus travel allowance.

Visit our camp on our photo website: http://homepage.mac.com/kippewa/org.rtx/

To Apply: Applications are available on our website: www.kippewa.com or contact us at the numbers listed below for a staff brochure and application.

Kippewa, Box 340, Westwood, Massachusetts, 02090-0340, U.S.A.
e-mail: kippewa@tiac.net | tel: 781-762-8291 | fax: 781-255-7167

COMMUNITY POLICING

Community co-operation identified as key to success

By AARON YZERMAN
Staff Writer

Community co-operation was identified as the key to success as police and citizens took part in the 7th Annual Community Policing Symposium.

The Feb. 10 event involved the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS), in co-operation with the Welland, Pelham and Port Colborne Community Policing Groups to inform and challenge the public and community policing committee delegates.

Dr. Fred Mathews, Ph.D., criminal psychologist, and community psychologist with Central Toronto Youth Services, was the keynote speaker at the symposium held at Centennial High School in Welland. He explained the problems that arise from people, particularly youth, not being involved in their communities.

"A lot of communities have come to think we need a different paradigm, a different rulebook," he says. "I think at some point, we, as human beings, have to actually stop and step back. We have to do something at the prevention level. A restorative justice approach is something that's building more and more in the world."

Mathews says there are about 30,000 children with mental illness on treatment waiting lists. He explained why it's important for children to be responsible enough to be in control of what they are doing, and that being community-minded by the age of 15 or 16 will help in their development.

"The biggest problem in Western civilization is that our children are not becoming civilly engaged. I'm a strong believer in accountability. They're as accountable as we are for their actions."

Mathews explained children, who may be "different" than others, are often ignored by peers and other people in their communities. Simply greeting them or complimenting them can contribute to their mental health, although focusing on a simple achievement is not as effective as complimenting a positive personality trait or a skill.

"Teenagers know when they're being patronized. We lose our credibility when we don't challenge them."

He says that the children who are ignored can be "pushed to the edges," and then criminal trouble can surface. "They're suffering from broken bonds," he says. "There may be problems in the school setting. There may be a bigger issue in the school."

Mathews explained that parents can keep their children active and out of difficulty by keeping them engaged in their community.

"It's not enough to simply send them somewhere. Go somewhere together. And if you can't afford it, there are places you can go that don't cost money. Each second you spend with a young person can be crucial."

Judy Graham (left) and Brenda Herchmer during their presentation.
Photo by Aaron Yzerman

"The number 1 factor is ineffective parenting. Powerful. (It's) the major contributor to crime — it's not rocket science," he says. "Relationships — that's how you keep kids strong. An adult that's struggling is useless to a child. I think (the key) is (to) realize the power of words — the way you speak to others. You can harm or heal each other by what you say," he explained.

"We all have a responsibility to recognize how important our influence is on young people," says NRPS Chief Gary Nicholls. "It's almost scary what the doctor said — every second you spend with a child is crucial."

Nicholls explained that community strength is important. "There's lots they (citizens) can do. I learned a lot from the doctor this morning. This is a network that doesn't involve dollars and cents. I think that communities have to be attentive to their responsibility as representing and needing to address expectations of their citizens."

In addition to Dr. Mathews' speech, three workshops ran throughout the day. These were to provide insight into community co-operation and the policing that goes along with it. They also allowed people to discuss community and crime issues with other citizens and with officers.

Const. Donna Orth gave a presentation called "Bullying in the school community", explaining why bullying among children is so common at school and how it can affect the mind of a child.

She explained how young children get away with mentally abusing others through what often is passed off as "teasing." She says it's often termed a "joke", and not meant to be hurtful, when responding to parents, acting on their children's concerns, approach teachers and other parents.

"Kids are afraid to go out for recess. They're afraid to go out for gym."

Orth says this is not the case, as the passive aggressive things that some children say to others is intended to be harmful. "Bullying behaviour is criminal behaviour. It's serious. It's not just wiping something under the table."

A presentation, "What If?"„ was made by Heather Hodgson-Schleich, a teacher in the Law and Security Administration program and Police Foundations program at Niagara College, Welland campus.

Hodgson-Schleich speaks about drugs and alcohol to children in the junior kindergarten to Grade 5 ranges and familiarize them with terminology and educate them about the dangers.

She writes fable stories about characters, often animals, which run into problems that are similar to young people's, such as peer pressure. The stories teach the children to abstain from use of alcohol and drugs by taking concepts and presenting them in a way that children can relate to.

Brenda Herchmer, speaker at the symposium and Manager of the Niagara Centre for Community Leadership at Niagara College, had a discussion workshop entitled "Community Youth Programs." She and Judy Graham, community development co-ordinator for Thorold Community Activities Group and chair of the Thorold Community Policing Committee, discussed the role that community development and recreation play in a child's growth.

"Some kids come from high-risk backgrounds and they're OK, and some kids come out of high-risk backgrounds and they're not OK. I see it happen day after day," says Herchmer. "(If) they find something that they're good at, that keeps them from risk, from crime."

Herchmer also stressed how important recreation is in leading children away from crime. She discussed various parks and recreation programs in the United States, through which significant reductions in youth crime were related.

"We take it for granted, the importance of recreation in our lives. If you can reduce crime by 20 per cent in your community by adding a recreation program, what the heck have you got to lose?"

"It's a complicated thing," explains Herchmer. "One factor is that kids don't always use their leisure time properly. I think you need to explore different options to find what works for them."

"In their early years, parents need to get them involved — in teams, in programs," says Graham. "Get them involved as early. That's the key."

Niagara College helping African town to develop

By CLINTON HAGGART
Staff Writer

In a city called Butterworth, unemployment is high and the industry is retrenching with Niagara College's help.

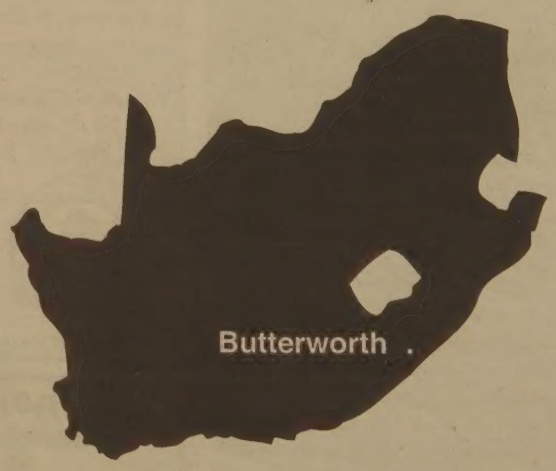
The Eastern Cape Technikon, in Butterworth, South Africa, sent five educators here to study small-business programs.

Eastern Cape Technikon has developed a business enterprise centre to help the people of Butterworth start their own businesses.

Although the centre isn't officially open, 35 people have opened small businesses.

The educators are on a two-week training program at Niagara College. They include Andrew Christoffels, 53, acting vice-principal of academics, William Baiden-Amissah, 62, head of the department of communications and languages, Ghana Matolengwe, 40, head of the department of education, Z.A. Mkoko, 46, head of the department of mechanical engineering, and Ernest Salpong, 47, dean and faculty of applied technology and education. They are at the Glendale campus training with Heather Carter, manager of business development.

Kyla Pennie, 27, international project specialist, said they are looking for ways to improve teaching at the centre in South Africa.



The Canadian International Development Agency has given $350,000 over the past four years to fund this program.

Christoffels said they have ideas for new ventures and are thinking about tourism and restoration programs.

"We are happy to be associated with Niagara College," said Christoffels, adding, "we want to continue working with them."

R & B AUTOMOTIVE
735-3838
60 Clark Street
Welland, Ontario
L3B 5W6
Ron Rainville

We Offer Help
Call Us... Jill Friend 685-7675
Abby's Secretarial Company
When You Need
Typing for Essays, Reports, Assignments & Correspondence
685-7675

Don't Be *Pushed* into Abortion
TAKE CONTROL . . .
CHOOSE LIFE
Your complete resource centre on Pro-Life
• Books • Audio Tapes & Presentation Kits avail.
• Videos • Brochures
St. Catharines RIGHT TO LIFE Inc.
110 Geneva St., St. Catharines 684-7505

THE FINAL WORD

Being SAC president can be frustrating

By BILL STEPHENSON
Staff Writer

Every student has to deal with frustration.

There's the hassle of exams, teachers and homework; then there's rent, beer money, roommates, and — depending on the situation — boyfriends and girlfriends. What's it like to have all those hassles plus the responsibility of being the Student Administrative Council (SAC) president

Ryan McLaughlin knows.

He has exams, teachers and homework. He pays rent, drinks beer and has a girlfriend. That already is a lot of responsibility. Add being SAC president. It must get frustrating.

McLaughlin says his biggest frustration as SAC president is "feeling like I have to convince students to get involved." One topic he specifically referred to is the Key Performance Indicator surveys (KPIs). McLaughlin says he feels there is a segment of the student body aware of KPIs, but, for the most part, students either are unaware or don't care.

He stressed the importance of the surveys. "These surveys have a direct influence on how the ministry (of training, colleges and universities) sees the college."

McLaughlin also broached the issue of class representatives. He says that not enough class representatives are appearing at meetings. As a result, representatives cannot return to their classes and present the information from meetings to the student body. This is yet another frustration that becomes evident as McLaughlin continues to talk.

RYAN McLAUGHLIN

"It is a constant challenge to get students involved . . . there is a large amount of student apathy."

Aside from his frustrations, McLaughlin has much to be proud of. The second-year Journalism-Print program student says, "Events have been very good; they are well attended." Winterfest was a success, and he is pleased with Movie Nights, which take place in the pub.

"Hopefully, by the end of the year, students can look at SAC and recognize SAC acted in their (the students') best interests." McLaughlin says the college will always be looking out for the college's interests, but SAC is here for the students. From providing adequate facilities, to arranging things for students to do, and looking out for their academic interests (the KPIs) McLaughlin wants students to have a say in what goes on in the school. "They do have a voice."

"I don't think I could be happy leaving this school without thinking I did the best job I could."

Upcoming events are the SAC elections, Sexual Awareness Week and a Raptors basketball game. Nomination kits for the elections are available Feb. 23. McLaughlin hopes to add something new to the elections this year, possibly a debate, he says.

"Hopefully, people will go to the ballot knowing who they are voting for."

Sexual Awareness Week takes place Feb. 19 to Feb. 23. Tickets to see the Raptors take on the Pacers on March 20 cost $30, which includes a bus ride there and back.

Glendale's Winterfest winners announced

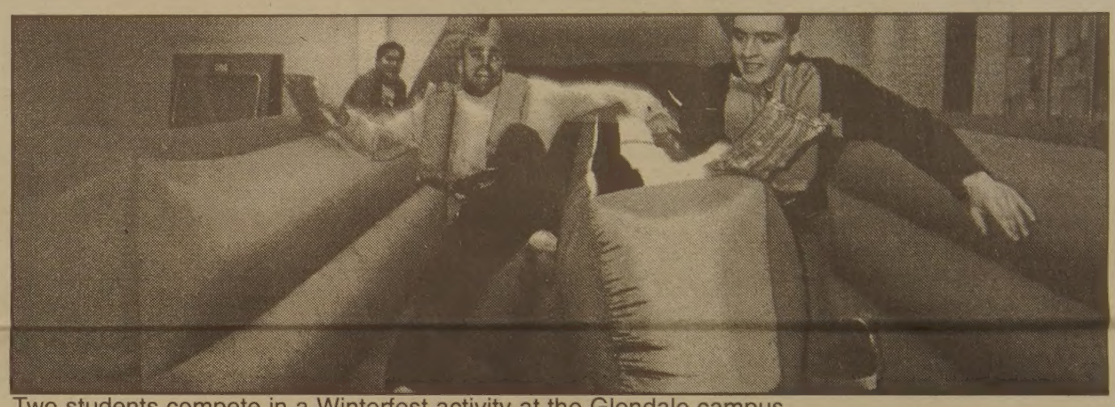
By HEIDI MORRISON
Staff Writer

The votes are tallied, the scores are in and the winners are . . .

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake has named the winners of Winterfest, which ran from Jan. 22 to Jan. 26.

The teams competed throughout the week in events including sumo wrestling, karaoke, mashed potato snow sculpting, a pasta-eating contest of "the most gruesome, hideous pasta ever," and a scavenger hunt, says LeMoni Dean, vice-president internal affairs.

The pasta was made by Chuck Holmes, vice-president of public relations.



Two students compete in a Winterfest activity at the Glendale campus.

Submitted photo

The four teams "worked so competitively at becoming Winterfest champions," he said.

First place went to the members of Team Dumb Ass: Dean Pedro, Dave Slade, Wes Huzinga, Steve Pye and Al Lambert.

"We would like to recognize Team Dumb Ass for having the best stage presence and costumes — aprons and nothing else," says Dean.

Dave Young, Ryan Young, Matt Howard and Rob Harvey, of Rochelle's Bitches, won second place.

The members of The Dog House — Abdul Jabar, Mark Les, Mike Harrison, Jeff Edmonds and Joselyn Sinclair — took third, while Ryan Biling, Mark P., Lindsey Shrouk, Gaurau Setli and Kerri Wood of *Team Brown finished in fourth* place.

"We would like to thank everybody at Glendale campus for participating in this year's Winterfest activities. It was a great success," Dean says.

BRTF students air Niagara

By SCOTT THOMSON
Staff Writer

Inside Niagara is on the air.

The live broadcast from Niagara College's Broadcasting — Radio, Television, and Film (BRTF) program students first aired at noon yesterday on Cogeco Cable 10.

The show, produced by second-year BRTF television students, takes a close look at events around the Niagara region. Community news, sports and entertainment will be some of the weekly segments.

The half-hour show will be repeated every Thursday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 4:30 p.m.

Starting this week the show will air except on March 1 when Niagara College students will be on Reading Week.

More January Starts in 2001

By SCOTT ROSTS
Staff Writer

After a significant drop in the number of January Start students last year, enrolment has increased for the 2001 winter term.

There are 443 students in January Start programs. That is 26 more than were in the 2000 winter term, but still significantly less than the 543 for the 1999 winter term.

Al Vaughan, registrar, attributes the decline to the reduction of programs offered to January Start students.

According to Vaughan, the most popular programs for the January Start students include Business Administration, Computer Programmer and Analyst and programs in the area of hospitality and tourism.

The January Start students begin their programs when the winter term begins and go through to late July. They get a week off between terms at the end of April.

Vaughan says tuition is the same for the students, but incidental fees aren't the same, particularly for health care. Students who start in September are covered from September to August, while January Starts are covered from January to August.

Despite decreased enrolment, Vaughan says it won't mean an end to January Start programs. He says that cutting individual programs would be the first step. Vaughan does say, though, that they will run a January Start program "as long as it's financially viable."

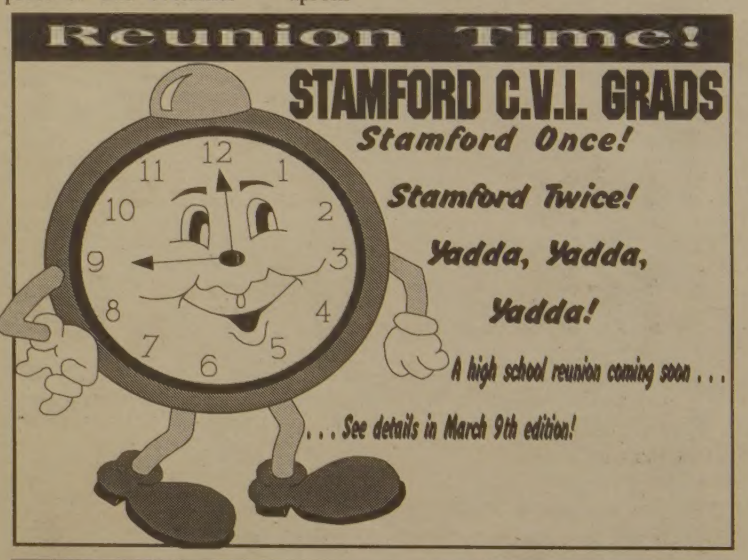
"We want to be able to offer January Start programs. We are always looking at opportunities to add a course," Vaughan says.

Vaughan admitted that one of the "challenges" for January Start programs is getting across the information that a student can start school in January, but the college has a number of choices for advertising, including local cable television advertisements and newspaper advertisements.

"There are definite benefits to the students. It gives them another entry point."

Vaughan says another benefit is that the year is also about a month shorter than a program starting in September.

Overall return rates for the term improved this year by almost 100 students. Vaughan says 5,058 students are enrolled for the winter term, compared with 4,921 last winter.



Go With A Leader!
Student Discounts up to 40%
This offer valid for all regularly scheduled services operated by Coach Canada
(Montreal Corridor, Niagara Peninsula and Key Southwestern Cities.)
For Fare & Schedule Information Call
Niagara Falls 357-2133
St. Catharines 682-9206
1-800-461-7661
Coach Canada
Operated by
trentway-wagar inc.

It's your world
RPM
RPM
Team Player's
RACING IN THE C.A.R.T. SERIES